

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

EPIPHANY SUNDAY JANUARY 6, 1974

MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PATTY BASEHORE, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "IDYLL" NOLTE
"MORNING PRELUDE" MARTIN

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 123 "AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD"
*ASCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "ALMIGHTY AND MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, WE HAVE ERRED AND STRAYED FROM THY WAYS LIKE LOST SHEEP. WE HAVE FOLLOWED TOO MUCH THE DEVICES AND DESIRES OF OUR OWN HEARTS. WE HAVE OFFENDED AGAINST THY HOLY LAWS. WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE THOSE THINGS WHICH WE OUGHT TO HAVE DONE, AND WE HAVE DONE THOSE THINGS WHICH WE OUGHT NOT TO HAVE DONE. BUT THOU, O LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US. SPARE THOU THOSE, O GOD, WHO CONFESS THEIR SINS. RESTORE THOU THOSE WHO ARE PENITENT, ACCORDING TO THY PROMISES DECLARED UNTO MANKIND IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. AND GRANT, O MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, FOR HIS SAKE, THAT WE MAY HEREAFTER LIVE A GODLY, RIGHTEOUS AND SOBER LIFE, TO THE GLORY OF THY HOLY NAME. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 30: 11-20

HYMN No. 126 "THOU DIDST LEAVE THY THRONE"

ORGAN MEDITATION

SERMON: "BIG DREAMS!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*GLORIA PATRI

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

ANTHEM: "THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE"

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "ANDANTE CANTABILE" SIMONE

INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 299 "LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE "RECESSIONAL" BEEBE

--- *CONGREGATION STANDING ---

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY MR. & MRS. ROBERT TAIT TO THE "GLORY OF GOD".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *RAYMOND COVERT, JOHN REDMAN, DANIEL BOSKO AND ROBERT KNAUER.

MR. & MRS. HOWARD BOLAM WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

MRS. JOHN REDMAN, LAUREL STAUFFER AND DEBBIE MCBRIDE WILL BE IN NURSERY TODAY.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. R. L. RICHEY - BCMH; MRS. CHARLES (ELEANOR) MCWILLIAMS - GROVE CITY HOSPITAL.

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF OUR OLD FRIEND - TOM RAIMONDI.

TODAY - 2:00 P.M. - ALL PRESIDENTS, OR REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH ORGANIZATION WILL MEET IN THE UNDERCROFT TO MAKE UP THE NEW CALENDAR FOR THE COMING YEAR FOR THE YEARBOOK. THE MEETING IS IMPORTANT - PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND - BRING A CALENDAR.

TONIGHT - 7-9 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEETING

MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY FRUGH CIRCLE

ARC WILL HOLD A BOWLING PARTY ON THE 18TH OF JAN.

AT FAMILY LANES FOR 7:00 SHARP.

TUES. - BOARD MEETING OF WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP AT 10:00

THURS. - 7:15 - GOLDEN CIRCLE WILL ENTERTAIN FRIENDSHIP CLUB OF MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION IN THE UNDERCROFT. (REGULAR MEETING NIGHT ON 16 WILL BE CANCELLED.)

THE ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE FOR REV. LINK

TELEPHONE: 352-1103

ADDRESS: 153 KECK ROAD, SARVER, PENNA. 16055

ALL ORGANIZATIONS PLEASE TURN YOUR REPORTS IN TO BEA TAIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WE HAD SUCH A GOOD RESPONSE LAST SUNDAY FOR FLOWERS, ONLY MARCH 17 AND 31 ARE OPEN UP THRU JUNE.

ART SNYDER, ROY THORP
RAY COVERT, MRS. WILLIAM HARRIS, CHURCH SECRETAR

2/

If asked R. Cooper dreams, choir to sing perfectly
If asked Mrs. Collins dreams, to use 10 talented
ingers to play organ perfectly in worship of God
Ask any person of cong. involved in its work what
dream is, & will tell to do best job.
Martin Luther King in Wash. speech said, "I have a
dream."

He not only one, I have dream too.
My dream about this cong, & church.
I have dream one day I will see church overflowing
each Sunday
I have dream majority of cong, involved in its
work & not just a few.
I have dream that all cong. will tithe & give
rightful 10% to the Lord.
I have dream that influence of this church will
be felt & known thruout all Butler & County,
& surrounding areas.

Big Dreams? Sure they are, but can come true.

Have u ever approached Butler from Rte 8 North or
Rts 68, or S. Main at night?
If u have u know what I talking about, when say
looks like miniature Xmas village under tree.
Really beautiful, lites each house.

Coming in Butler several times, seeing lites of all
houses reminded me of story of Moses & Israelites
& speech to them.

In minds eye I looking out over city & thinking of
dream & vision of Moses.
I thot of Moses looking over Butler at nite & saying,
(Text, Deut 30:19)

Thot of each individ. house & occupants.
Wondered in mind how many never heard of Jesus C.
Wondered how many go bed each nite, & put out lite
I am seeing, only to lie down in bed after another
day of not finding rest for that longing in hearts

Wondered how many arise next day & search for peace
that cannot come except thru Christ.

Wondered how many these people never reached, not
because not enuf churches, but simply because effort
not made.

Is my biggest dream, to reach the unreached of
Butler & surrounding area.

"Big Dreams!"

Deut. 30:19, "I call heaven and earth to witness
inst you this day, that I have set before you
life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose
life that you and your descendants may live."

In 30th chap. of Deut read of Moses speaking to Israel
Standing on edge of promised land
Moses at point where cannot go over.
He not permitted to go with them
He is instructing them in what they must do.

But more than this, is telling them must make dreams
come true

"This day you longed for, planned for, yarned for,
"I call heaven and earth, etc."

Moses not just looking at Jordan and distant horizon
but is looking upon future horizon.
He is seeing visions not seen by them

He is seeing big dreams, & dreams can become reality
He is seeing happiness & joy if willing follow God

Choice Moses is offering is life centered on God
Nice big dream, perhaps ridiculed, scoffed, laughed
Can picture some cynical Israelites in background,
"Get him, boy talk about a snow job, why he isn't
even going across & he telling us of dreams of his."

No evidence to support my thinking, but if look at
results of their history, could draw conclusion quite
a few of number unwilling to dream with leader.

Let if fellow going to dream, ~~must~~ may as well dream
big

Down history, many dream big.
Edison, Beethoven both deaf, yet heard music beyond
comprehension of others with good ears.
Luther afflicted with serious physical illnesses,
yet never stopped from writing & telling of love
of God.

But each had dreams, big dreams, & these dreams
motivated them & caused them to accomplish things
they did.

Do you have dreams?

I hope so.

I am sure if I asked what dreams are, would get
varied answers.

May sound impossible, & many maybe think is
But with prayer, with work, with planning, & help of
God can be done.

But takes vision.

Solomon in Proverbs, "Where there is no vision, the
people perish

U & I must catch the visions God has for us.

I firmly believe God leading me this direction & this
my vision

But must become vision of all of you

For me to only have the visions is to invite no
spiritual attainment & invite stagnation.

We all know this is one of our problems.

It is no secret & we must know it.

We are on dead center & ~~must~~ unable move rt or left

It is task of not only me, but of all of us to get
the momentum going again

Past Wed. Church Council voted & approved sending
Pastor & layman to week long school of Evangelism in
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in May.

This not vacation, but program that could very easily
change the entire complexion of this church.

We need to all pray for Pastor & a layman as they
endeavor to become involved in a vital program as this

But May, a few months away. We will not waste these
precious days awaiting May.

I have some ideas, & will implement them in a few
months.

But again, must stress a vision to succeed.

I cannot do all of the thinking & planning. If have
any suggestions, please see me, or turn into office.
Or call me & make arrangements to consult with you.

Do not hesitate to contact me & let's arrange to get
together.

Past week visited shut-ins with Rev. Cooper. This
enjoyable, but made me aware of need for home visits

This will do, but need prayers & support.

My prayer along with my dreams is that we as a cong.
as a people, can catch the vision of a vital, alive,
growing, worshiping, God fearing, Bible believing

working church of Jesus Christ, here at St. Paul's.

Our prayers daily, added to mine can make this real-
ity. Let us catch the vision of big dreams.

(Text Deut. 30;19

"Big Dreams!"

Text: Deuteronomy 30:19,

"I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live." R.S.V.

Proverbs 29:18,

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

In the 30th chapter of Deuteronomy we read of Moses speaking to the Israelites. They are standing on the edge of the promised land. Moses has reached the point at which he must stop. He has been told by God that he will not be permitted to cross over the Jordan with them. So he is instructing them in what they must do.

But more than this he is telling them that they are about to make ~~true~~ their fondest dream come true. He is telling them in effect; "this is the day all of you have longed for, and planned for so long and hard. This is the big dream about to come true." He says, "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live."

Moses is looking not just across the Jordan to the land on the otherside that can be seen. His eyes are set upon the future horizon, where he can see their life being lived in peace and happiness, or in sorrow and sadness. He is seeing a vision that is not being seen by his people. He is seeing big dreams, and those dreams can become a reality for all of them, but only if they are willing to choose to follow the Lord.

The choice of life that Moses is offering is to live the life that is centered upon God. It is a nice big dream that I am sure probably met with acceptance by some, but was ridiculed and laughed about by many others. I can picture some of the cynical fellows among these Israelites, standing in the background while Moses is making this speech, and poking one another and saying, "Get him. Boy talk about giving us a snow job, why he isn't even going across with us and he is telling us of these big dreams of his." Now there is no evidence to support my thinking, but if we look at the results that are evident by their turning from God throughout the remainder of their history, we can very well believe that there were quite a few of their number who were unwilling to dream with their leader.

But if a fellow is going to dream, he may as well dream big, it doesn't cost any more. Down through history many men have dreamed big dreams. We could name many of them. Edison and Beethoven were two men who were deaf, and yet they heard and made music beyond the comprehension of others with good ears. Martin Luther was afflicted with serious physical illnesses, and yet this never stopped him from writing and telling of the love of God.

But each one had dreams, big dreams, and it was those dreams that motivated them and cause them to accomplish the things they did. Do you have dreams? Do you have big dreams? I hope so. I am sure that if I were to ask any of you what your dreams are I would get many answers. If we were to ask Ralph Cooper what his dreams are, he would probably tell us, "to have his choir sing in perfect pitch and harmony. To sing like the very angels of God, lifting their hearts and their voices in praise to Him." If we were to ask Mrs. Collins what her dreams were, she would probably tell us, "to use her ten talented fingers to play the organ perfectly in helping to lead the worship of God.

~~Mark~~ Ask any person of this congregation who is involved in doing any work in it what his or her dream is, and they will tell you it is to do the very best job they can at whatever they are doing. Martin Luther King in his famous speech in Washington D.C. said, "I have a dream."

He is not the only one to have a dream, for I have one too, My dream concerns this congregation, and this church. I have a dream that one day I will see this church filled to overflowing every Sunday. I have a dream that the majority of the congregation will be involved in the work of this church and not just a handful. I have a dream that all of the congregation will be tithing and giving the 10% to the Lord that is rightfully due Him from each of us. I have a dream that the influence of this church will be felt and known throughout all of Butler and Butler County and the counties adjacent to it us.

Big dreams? Sure they are, but they can come true. Have you

ever approached Butler from Route 8 North at night? Or from Route 68, or South Main Street at night? If you have you know what I am talking about when I say that it looks like a miniature village that should be placed under a Christmas tree somewhere. With all of the lights twinkling and burning in each house, it is really beautiful.

But coming into Butler several times, and seeing the lights of all the houses, reminded me of this story of Moses and his speech to the Israelites. In my minds eye I was looking out over the city and thinking of the dream, of the vision that Moses had. I thought of Moses standing looking at Butler at night and saying to the city, "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live." I thought of each individual house and of its occupants. I wondered in my mind how many of the people in many of those homes have never heard of Jesus Christ. I wondered how many of them go to bed each night and put out that light that I was seeing, to lie down to sleep after another day of not finding what they had need of to satisfy that restless longing in their hearts. And how they would arise the next day to greet another day of searching for the peace that cannot come except through Jesus Christ.

I wondered how many of these people had never been reached, not because we do not have enough churches, but simply because the effort has not been made.

This is my biggest dream, to reach the unreached of Butler and the surrounding area. It may sound impossible and many of you may think it is, but with prayer, and planning, and work, it can be done. But it takes a vision to do it. Solomon tells us in Proverbs, that, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." You and I must catch the visions, that God has for us. I firmly believe that God has been leading me in this direction, and this is my vision. But it must become the visions of all of you as well. For me to have the vision only, is to invite no growth, no

spiritual attainment, and to have instead stagnation. We all know that this is one of our problems here at this time. It is no secret, and there is no sense believing that it is. We are on dead center and are unable to move right or left. It becomes the task of not only me, but the task of all of us to get the momentum going again.

This past Wednesday evening your elected Church Council took what could very well be the most vital step that could be taken in this direction. The council voted and approved the sending of the pastor and a layman to attend a week long school on Evangelism in Fort Lauderdale Florida in May. This program is one that has been used in churches throughout the nation, and is one that could change the entire complexion of this church. We need to pray for God's blessing upon the pastor and a layman as they endeavor to become involved in a vital program such as this.

But May is a few months away, and so we are concerned with the months until then. Well, let me assure you these months will not be wasted in just waiting for the school session in May. I have some ideas and I intend to implement a few in these next few months. But again I stress that we need a vision in order to succeed. We cannot just let the pastor do all of the thinking for us, nor can we expect him to have all of the answers. If any of you have suggestions that you would like to make to better our church in any way, please submit them to me or to Bea Tait or turn them in to the office. If you would like to consult with me about anything that may improve our church, please do not hesitate to contact me, and let's arrange to talk about it.

This past week I spent two days with Rev. Cooper serving Communion to the shut-ins. It was an enjoyable two days, and in many respects made me more acutely aware of the need for visiting in the homes. I intend to instigate a program of home visitation, and strive to reach our members in this way. Again, you can help by your prayers, and your concern.

My prayer, along with my dreams is that we as a congregation and as a people, can catch the vision of a vital, alive, growing, worshiping,

God fearing, Bible believing, working church of Jesus Christ, here at St. Paul's. Your prayers daily added to mine can make this become a reality.
each
Let us catch the vision of big dreams. "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live."

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 13, 1974
MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PATTY BASEHORE, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE: "Nocturne" FIELD
SILENT PRAYER
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 1 "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!"
*ACRISPITION - CHORAL AMEN
*EXHORTATION
*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "MOST HOLY AND MERCIFUL FATHER, WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND CONFESS BEFORE THEE; OUR SINFUL NATURE PRONE TO EVIL AND SLOTHFUL IN GOOD; AND ALL OUR SHORTCOMINGS AND OFFENSES. THOU ALONE KNOWEST HOW OFTEN WE HAVE SINNED; IN WANDERING FROM THY WAYS; IN WASTING THY GIFTS; IN FORGETTING THY LOVE. BUT THOU, O LORD, HAVE PITY UPON US; WHO ARE ASHAMED AND SORRY FOR ALL WHEREIN WE HAVE DISPLEASED THEE. TEACH US TO HATE OUR ERRORS; CLEANSE US FROM OUR SECRET FAULTS; AND FORGIVE OUR SINS FOR THE SAKE OF THY DEAR SON. AND O MOST HOLY AND LOVING FATHER; HELP US WE BESEECH THEE; TO LIVE IN THY LIGHT AND WALK IN THY WAYS; ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDMENTS OF JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."
*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
*PRAISE
*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.
*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.
*DOXOLOGY No. 551
SCRIPTURE LESSON: PSALM 115
HYMN No. 476 "COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"
ORGAN MEDITATION
SERMON: "SHOW ME!"
PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
*GLORIA PATRI
AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)
ANTHEM: "God So Loved the World" STAINER

*CALL TO PRAYER
*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING
OFFERTORY "OFFERTOIRE" MARTIN
*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 282 "FAITH OF OUR FATHERS!"
*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
ORGAN POSTLUDE "PONTIFICAL" HIGGINS

----- * CONGREGATION STANDING -----
THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY MR. & MRS. RAYMOND COVERT IN MEMORY OF "GRANDPARENTS".
SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *MONT MACKINNEY, STEVE VARGO, WALLY FEDER AND CHARLES FENAR.
DEACON AND MRS. HARRY FRY WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. R. L. RICHEY AND MR. PAUL HARPER
BCHM. MRS. CHARLES McWILLIAMS - BASHLINE HOSP.
NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. BARBARA VARGO AND KAREN KENNEDY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 181.

THURS. - 10:30 - MARY MARTHA CIRCLE - ANNUAL TUREEN LUNCHEON AT THE HOME OF MRS. SANDY SHEPFECK.

MONDAY - 7:00 - CHURCH AND MINISTRY AND OFFICERS WILL MEET TO SET UP COMMITTEES FOR YEARBOOK.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MRS. HARRY WEETER.

FRIDAY - 7:00 SHARP - THE ARC WILL HOLD A BOWLING PARTY AT FAMILY LANES.

RECEPTION FOR REV. AND MRS. RALPH LINK AND FAMILY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE THIS MORNING IN THE UNDERCROFT. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO COME AND WELCOME THEM TO OUR CHURCH - WE ARE GLAD THEY ARE HERE.

THE CONGREGATIONAL DINNER IS SET FOR FEBRUARY 3RD, AT 5:30. WE EXPECT A GOOD ATTENDANCE SINCE ALL THE BIG FOOTBALL GAMES WILL BE OVER. THE YEARBOOKS WILL BE GIVEN OUT AT THIS TIME AND THERE WILL BE A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING TO GO OVER THE BOOK. OTHER SURPRISES ARE IN STORE - SO COME OUT AND FELLOWSHIP WITH THE OTHERS FROM YOUR CHURCH.

Welcome all visitors; sign book - KATHY GROS
Will not greet this AM after ben. have bap'tisms.
No YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

man cannot create from scratch like God
3rd chap Exodus commissioning of Moses by God
Moses asks God, "If I come to the people of Israel
and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent
me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is His name?'
what shall I say to them?"

Moses is asking, Who are you God?

God answers, "I am who I am."

By stating I AM, God leaves no room for doubt who

He is the omnipotent, all powerful
Supreme being to end all supreme beings.

He tells Moses, "Tell my people that I am has sent
you to them."

This implies the authority not to be questioned.

I AM enuf of answer for people.

This who God is, THE I AM.

The ALL IN ALL, God & creator in full author & maj
esty. The authority over all & in all.

This may not answer all quest, but partial explan
to anyone say Show Me.

EXAMPLE COLLEGE XPIAN & ATHEISTS

What is God.

When God gave commands Moses said, "I am the Lord
your God," went on to say jealous God, & not have
other Gods before Him.

Does not want us to share allegiance with us
Wants us love Him, serve Him, worship Him. only

Deut 6:4 & 5, Orthodox Jewish prayer Shema,
Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and you
shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your might."

Maybe we recog as new command given Js in NT

In any event prayer remind worshiper what God is,
and what duty to Him is.

I personally not believe many repetit prayers.

have tendency become lip service, minds off elsewhere
What do tonite, is roast burn, what wear afternoon
Not worship, merely robot or automaton.

Jews had good idea with prayer, if prayed sincerely
& earnestly can help overcome other gods, like money
greed, selfishness, envy, cars, stocks, bonds etc.
Many gods can creep in if not careful

Js said God spirit, they worship, must worship spirit
not only what God, but how come to Him. & truth

Can only have communion with God when in harmony

"Show Me!"

Text Psalm 115:2,

"Why should the nations say, 'Where is our God?'"

Missouri license plates, "Show me state."

People supposedly unbelieving, must see to believe.

Questionable, whether true or not

People from Missouri, no more unbelieving than other
states, nations, or people biblical times.

115th Psalm David's answer to unbelief of his day.

Surrounding nations pagan and unbelieving

Text above.

Show me your God. Let me see so I can believe.

People today asking same thing

people want answers, want proof

no longer can pass off serious quest, with out
dated, outmoded answer God is in heaven.

David did this, & I sure people of his day wanted
further proof.

We live age of enlightenment, no longer able
satisfy SS answers.

people want to know.

7 or 8 yrs God is dead controversy is

Butler Businessmen billboard, Our God alive sorry xxx
about yours.

traveled Mercer Easter Sun. church bulletingboard

"God is alive today."

If theory did noth else, made people aware those
standing sidelines saying, Show Me, let me see Go

Every church fathers to overcome & counteract doubts,
misgivings, heresies, formulated Apost & Nicene Creeds
Each Sunday repeat words, I believe in God Father
Almighty maker of heaven and earth.

This affirm should enable us answer quest. exist of
should be able defend belief

Naturally not able answer all quest, but can come
up with pretty good answers Who God, What God,
Where God, when someone say, Show Me.

Who is God asked by man since creation

Man always worshiped something, someone as creator
Most pagan rel. worship many gods.

(Christian and Jew worship one God

In Gen. read, In beg. God crested heaven & earth.

This show God creator

God create from nothing, man cannot, must take
existing elements & mixes t

Does all this prove where God is?
Does all this prove Who He is?
Is all of this prove what He is?

Of course not.

The real importance lies in not who, what & where of
i, but the question, "Do I know Him?"

All questions answered someday when we go to be with
Him

But in meantime, He as near as breath
We can take Him with us wherever we go, but must
want him in our lives before this is possible.

The only way to answer the question of Show Me, is by
our individual lives.

It all comes down to the simple fact of,
"Can anyone see God in me?"

And this is question all must ask of selves personally
as we look to God and say to Him, "Show Me Lord, that
You are in me, and let me show You to others."

Cannot be of unlike spirit & be in touch
Cannot be evil & expect blessing
Must try to be righteous & pure, then can come to God
& come to us

When man strives to God's will, then man can meet God
God knows we sinful by nature, & not perfect as He
If try to be right, can have communion & fellowship

Story Nancy small girl, out walk, night look at stars
Point with one little finger, "Is God up there?"
How tell 5,6 yr old in words he, she understand?

Fried tell simply, God in here, heart.

Eyes big, "Is He really Daddy?"

Had tell her cannot see but dwells in us more than
sky
To question where God, He here in town
in this church, & in us.

Maybe shock find God in some peop we know, perhaps
can be seen if we look for Him

Peop's time wanted know bout God

They asked He answer if see Him, when not.

This may been consolation those people, but what of
millions before, or millions after have not seen us
To believe unseen very difficult to say least.

This what call faith.

This what asked believe, believe in God.

We accept this many areas of our lives

Can any tell me what electricity look like? & is it
really in wires heat water, light lites, cook food?
Of course can't, but does that mean not there?

Just grab bare wire & find out.

To explain is impossible. So with God

Where He is not all that important.

Important thing is we believe.

Russian cosmonauts returned orbiting, no see God
Col John Glenn on orderliness of space, "Could all of
this have just happened? Was this an accident that
someone tossed up a bunch of flotsam and jetsam, and
it suddenly started making these orbits of its own
accord? I cannot believe that is true. I think this
is a definite plan. This is one big thing in space
that shows me there is a God, some power that put all
of this into orbit and keeps it there. It wasn't
just an accident."

He doesn't say he met God up there.

Nor does he say he saw Him.

But he implies in all this he saw hand of God in
sunrises & sunsets, looking at earth from vantage
in space. This diff. between believe and unbelieve

A

"his disciples said", "Thou art an

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"Show Me!"

Text: Psalm 115:2, "Why should the nations say, 'Where is our God?'"

Perhaps you may have seen the license plates of cars from Missouri and may have noticed the slogan, "The show me state." People from this state are supposedly more unbelieving and must be shown before belief sets in. Whether this is true or not is questionable. But the people from Missouri are no different than the people of any other state, or of any other nation, nor are any of us any different than the people of biblical times when it comes to unbelief.

~~David writes in the 115th Psalm of unbelief~~

In the 115th Psalm we read of David's answer to the unbelief of his day. The nations surrounding ~~the~~ the Israelites were pagan nations and they must have questioned the existence of God many times in many different ways. Thus David asks the question, "Why should the nations say, 'Where is their God?'" In other words they are saying Show me your God. Let me see Him so I may believe."

People today are asking the same questions. We are living in an age of acute scepticism. People want answers. People want proof for things. No longer can we pass off serious questions with an outdated and outmoded answer such as God is in heaven, and expect people to swallow this with no other questions. David answered this way, and I am sure that the people of his day asked for further proof as well. This is an age of enlightenment and no longer may we satisfy the curious with Sunday School answers. People want to know.

About 7 or 8 years ago the church and church people were involved in the God is Dead controversy. Along about that time the Butler Businessmen had a billboard that proclaimed, "Our God is alive, sorry about yours." Perhaps some of you remember it. I can recall traveling to Harbor on an Easter Sunday, and seeing on a church bulletin board the words, "God is Alive Today." If this theory did nothing else, it made people aware that there are those who are standing on the sidelines saying, "Show me, let me see your God."

The early church fathers in order to overcome the serious doubts and misgivings of those outside the church as well as to counteract the

heresies within the church, formulated the Apostles and the Nicene Creed. Each Sunday we repeat the words, "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." Being able to make this affirmation, should enable any of us to be able to answer serious questioning of the existence of God. And indeed we should be able to defend our belief.

Naturally we cannot answer all questions in this realm, but we can come up with some pretty good answers as to Who God is, What God is, and where He is, when someone ~~asks~~ says, "Show Me."

Who is God has been asked by man since the dawn of creation. Man has always worshiped something or someone as the ruler of the universe and as the creator of everything. Most pagan religions have many gods which they worship and many are cruel and unloving. But the Christian and the Jew ~~alike~~ are alike in the respect that we believe in one God. We

read in Genesis, "In the beginning, God created heaven and earth." Then follows the remainder of the creation story. We know from this that God is a creator. In this realm we can separate God and man, for God can create out of nothing, and man can only take the elements and chemicals that are already in existence and from this make something. Man cannot create from scratch as God can.

In the 3rd chapter of Exodus, we read of the commissioning of Moses, by God to lead the people to the promised land. Moses questions God and says, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them??" In other words Moses is asking, "Who are you God?" And God answers, "I am who I am." By stating that He is the I Am, God leaves no room for doubt as to who He is. He is the omnipotent, the all powerful, the supreme being to end all supreme beings. He tells Moses, "Tell my people that I am has sent you to them." This implies that the authority is not to be questioned. That I Am should be enough of an answer to these people. This is who God is, He is the I Am. He is the all in all. The God and creator in full authority and majesty.

The authority over all and in all. Now this may not answer all of the questions or doubts about Who God is, but it is at least a partial explanation we can share with anyone who say, "Show Me."

What is God? When He gave the commandments to Moses, He said, "I am the Lord your God," and He went on to say that He was a jealous God, and we are to have no other God's before Him. He does not want to share us with any other allegiance. He wants us to love Him to honor Him and to worship Him, and rightly so,

In Deuteronomy 6:4 & 5 we find recorded a prayer that is used daily by the Orthodox Jews. "Hear O Israel the Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your might." Perhaps we recognize this as the new commandment that Jesus gave in the New Testament. But in any event this prayer is to remind the worshiper ~~that~~ what God is, and what his duty to him is.

I personally do not believe in too many repetitious prayers, because a steady repetition becomes merely a habit. A mere lip service, while our minds have drifted off somewhere or someplace else. Perhaps we begin to think what we are going to do tonight, or whether the roast is burning in the oven at home, or what shall I do this afternoon. This type of thing then ceases to be worship and merely becomes something done like a robot or an automaton.

I think the Jews had a very good idea with this prayer and if it is prayed sincerely and earnestly, can help us to overcome the other gods that can creep into our lives. The gods of money, of greed, of selfishness, of envy of others, gods of cars, or houses, or prestige or what have you. There are many gods that can come into our lives if we are not careful.

Jesus said, "God is a spirit and they who worship Him, must worship Him in spirit and in truth." He is telling us not only what God is, but how we must come to Him. We can only have communion with God, when

we are in harmony with Him. We cannot be of an unlike spirit and be in touch with Him. We cannot be evil and expect His blessing. We must try to be righteous and pure, and then we can come to God and He will come to us. When man strives to do God's will, then man can meet God. God knows that we are sinful by nature and cannot be perfect as He is. But if we try to be right, we can have communion with God and He with us.

When Nancy was a small girl, we were walking around the yard in Renfrew one night. The night was one of those beautiful summer nights, where the sky was full of stars, and we were looking at them. She asked me in that simple and endearing way as only children can, "Daddy, is God really up there?", as she pointed with one of her little fingers. How do you tell a 5 or 6 year old child in words he or she can understand where God is? I tried to tell her as simply as possible that God is here, in your heart. She looked at me and her got real big and she said, "Is he really Daddy?" Well, I had to tell her that we could not really see Him, but He dwells in us more than He does in the sky. To the question where is God? we can answer that he is here in this town. He is here this morning, and He is here in us. Now this may come as ~~an~~ a shock because maybe we cannot picture God as dwelling in some people we know, and perhaps He isn't. But He can be seen if we look for Him.

The people of Jesus' time wanted to know about God. They asked Him, and He answered that if they saw Him, they had seen God, because He and the Father were one. This may have been some consolation for those people, but what of the millions who ~~have~~ lived before Jesus and never saw ^{Jesus} ~~God~~, and the millions who have lived since, and never saw Him? To believe in something you have never seen is very difficult to say the least. This is what we call faith. This is what we are asked to believe when we believe in God. Yet we accept this type of belief in many areas of our lives. Can any of you tell me what electricity looks like, and if it is really in wires that light lights, and heat water, and cook food? Of course you can't, but does

that mean it is not there? Just grab a bare wire and find out. But to explain it is impossible. So it is with God. Where He is is not all that important. The important thing is that we believe in Him.

When one of the Russian cosmonauts returned from orbiting the earth, he said that he had not seen God up there. Col. John Glenn ~~statedly~~ commenting upon the orderliness of space said, "Could all of this have just happened? Was this an accident that someone tossed up a bunch of flotsam and jetsam, and it suddenly started making these orbits of its own accord? I cannot believe that's really true. I think this was a definite plan. This is one big thing in space that shows me there is a God, some power that put all of this into orbit and kept it there. It wasn't just an accident."

Now he doesn't say that he met God up there. Nor does he say that he saw Him. But he does imply in all of this that he saw the hand of God in the stars, in the sunrises and the sunsets, and looking at earth from his vantage point in space. This is the difference between a believer and a non-believer.

Does all of this prove where God is? Does it prove what He is? Does it prove who He is? Of course not. The real importance lies, not in the who, what and where of God, but in the question, "Do I know Him?" All of our questions concerning Him will be answered someday, when we each go to be with Him. But in the meantime He is as near as our next breath. We can take Him with us wherever we go, but we must want Him in our lives before this is possible.

The only way to answer the question of "Show Me," is by our individual lives. It all comes down to the simple fact of, "Can anyone see God in me?" And this is the question we must ask of ourselves, personally, as we look to God and say to Him, "Show Me, Lord, that you are in me, and let ~~others~~ me show You to others. Let us pray.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 20, 1974
 REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 BILL WATTERSON, STEVE BASEMORE, - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE: "PRELUDE IN E-FLAT MAJOR" BACH
 SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 21 "JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE"

*ACSCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "ALMIGHTY AND MOST MERCIFUL
 FATHER, FROM WHOM COMETH DOWN EVERY GOOD AND PERFECT
 GIFT; WE YIELD THEE PRAISE AND THANKS FOR ALL THY
 MERCIES. THY GOODNESS HATH CREATED US; THY BOUNTY
 HATH SUSTAINED US; THY FATHERLY DISCIPLINE HATH
 CHASTENED AND CORRECTED US; THY PATIENCE HATH BORNE
 WITH US; THY LOVE HATH REDEEMED US. GIVE US A
 HEART TO LOVE AND SERVE THEE, AND ENABLE US TO SHOW
 OUR THANKFULNESS FOR ALL THE GOODNESS AND MERCY THOU
 HAST CONFERRED BY GIVING UP OURSELVES TO THY SERVICE,
 AND CHEERFULLY SUBMITTING IN ALL THINGS TO THY
 BLESSED WILL. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MARK 1:35-45

HYMN No. 261 "BEFORE THE CROSS OF JESUS"

ORGAN MEDITATION

"MR. CLEAN!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*GLORIA PATRI

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

ANTHEM: "SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD" WOMEN'S CHORUS

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "OFFERTOIRE"

BEHR

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 271 "O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "POSTLUDUM"

NORDMAN

*CONGREGATION STANDING

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED
 BY MR. & MRS. NICHOLAS NOWACH IN MEMORY OF
 "LOVED ONES".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY: *PAUL RIEMER, DARYL TAIT,
 JOHN DREHER, GARY PENAR.

MR. & MRS. RALPH KILLEAN WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT
 THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. RAYMOND
 COVERT AND PAULA STEPHENSON.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 226.

MONDAY - 7:30 - FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. R. L. RICHEY-428; MR. PAUL

HARPER-444; MR. RAYMOND MILLER-434; MRS. BETTY

FILSON-359; MRS. MARY JANE WEISENSTEIN-567 -

(BABY GIRL), MRS. GOTTA-441

THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ARE STILL IN NEED OF
 PLASTIC LIDS FROM MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE (ANY SIZE).

IF YOU HAVE ANY VASES YOU DON'T NEED ANYMORE -

THEY ARE NEEDED AT THE BUTLER HOSPITAL. YOU MAY
 LEAVE THEM ON THE COUNTER IN THE KITCHEN AND THEY
 WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF.

RESERVE - FEB. 3, - CONGREGATIONAL DINNER - 5:30 -

THE YEARBOOKS WILL BE GIVEN OUT AT THIS MEETING.

COME OUT AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS FROM OUR
 CHURCH.

WE WELCOME THOSE VISITING WITH US TODAY. PLEASE
 SIGN THE GUEST REGISTER ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE
 SANCTUARY.

WITH FELLOWSHIP - 7:30 PM

Naaman goes back to Elisha & says 5:15

tries to give presents

at ~~Elisha~~ Elisha says 5:16

And Naaman tries to insist

So Naaman asks for 2 mules burden of earth 5:17

He promises will not worship other god except God of Israel

When worships Rimmon will only be lip service.

It was believed to worship God, must worship on soil of Israel.

So actually would be ON THE SOIL OF ISRAEL

Naaman left Syria, diseased, worried about station of life, about all of things may come to pass if diseased

Came to Israel seeking miracle

instead received injunction to do something seemed foolish.

Expected words he said over him, instead was xandered

1. that prophet did not come personally

2. told to do childish almost ridiculous thing

But when listened words of his servant, & took necessary steps, was healed

Isn't this required of you & me?

No substitute for old river Jordan

Modern man looks at hot springs many parts world.

Many go Lourdes France, many others shrine Canada

All seek healing some find, many do not.

Naaman conquered pride, stifled vanity

& proud soldier he was went & dipped in Jordan &

"flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean."

Still pride & vanity keeps modern Naaman from blessing received by ancient Syrian

If we can forget pride, & vanity, & put of intellectual attitudes, & critical looks at church, & go down into stream of life giving gift of God, then our flesh can indeed be restored like that of a little child, & we can become clean.

If each week bathe souls in worship of God

Dip into God's word, The Bible

spend honest time dipping into fervent prayer,

then miracle can happen for us as for Naaman

We tell criminal to come clean. perhaps as Apian to walk daily should say make clean breast of it, & God will make clean.

Text: II Kings 5:14,

"So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean."

Naaman commander of Syrian army of King Aram

Very courageous, held high esteem by king

Thru valor & courage Syria won over enemies

One thing wrong Naaman, he was leper

To be leper hindrance, & set person apart

automatically cut off from others

Naaman concerned with his disease

Syrian army captured Jewish girl in raid on Is. villa,

She was servant of Naaman wife

In conversation said 5:3

Naaman wife told him, he tells king

king says, "Go, and I will send letter king of Israel

Naaman goes, takes presents 5:5 about 30,000 dollars

presents letter to king.

letter read 5:6

King displeased with letter 5:7

king looked upon as divine, worker of miracles

Fortunately Elisha heard of king's dismay

Sends message to king and inquires why he upset,

Says, "send to me, that he may know prophet in Is."

5:8 Naaman drives up to door Elisha with servants & char.

Elisha does not come out, sends servant.

Servant tells Naaman, 5:10

Naaman angry because servant & not Elisha 5:11,12

Saying, Are not Damascus rivers as good as Jordan?

ancient story Mohammed as youth went Damascus in caravan.

Came to summit of Southern hills.

Saw view of oasis of Damascus, orchards, blossoms.

Wrapped face in mantle, turned away, said, "Man may

enter only 1 paradise & that para. above."

Arabs called Damas, oasis "The garden of the world."

Naaman in rage because of treatment by Elisha

Servant explains, 5:13

5:14

Naaman came to Israel seeking cleansing & found it.
He stepped into Jordan a diseased man & stepped out
a original Mr. Clean.

XX
XX

Invitation for any not sure of relationship with
Christ to see me in office after church.

Will be glad to speak to anyone about this

Let us come to the river Jordan which is Christ,
and seek this cleansing in our lives.

IN 1911
1911
1911

1

—

When the King of Israel could bear to vent his anger, and began to rage the floor nervously. He said, "He is God, to kill and make

alive, that this was made good by her to save a man of his legacy? I will consider, and say nay to his making a quarrel with me."

Yet he was really saying nay that in ancient Israel the king was believed to have been divine, and he was looked upon as a miracle worker in the realm of sickness and disease. He was really saying, "He is a prophet or a servant of God," since the prophets of the time of this writing were the ones who did the miracle work of God. He was also conscious that King Ahas had helped him, and if Thammuz were not ruled by him, then what would have an excuse to attack Israel.

But particularly the Shekinah of Israel, which heard of the arrival of Thammuz and of the king's illness over his visit. Shekinah sent a message to the king and inquired why he was so upset, and why he lost his clothes in disease. He wrote, "Let him come to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel."

He himself drove up to the door of Ahas with his horses and carriers. But Shekinah does not come out to meet him, but sends one of his attendants instead. The attendant delivers the message from Shekinah which was, "The man whom is the Lord's anointed, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." This message Thammuz and as he speaks near the king's gate he mutters, "Behold, I thought he would surely come out to me, and stand, and tell upon the name of the Lord his God, and upon his hand upon the plow, and upon the harrow, and upon the sickle, and upon the sheaf of wheat, and upon the sheaf of barley, and upon the sheaf of wheat, and upon the sheaf of barley, and upon the sheaf of wheat, and upon the sheaf of barley."

He is saying, "What's my special about the River Jordan? The waters of Jordan are not bitter and sweet."

There is an ancient story that Mohammed in his youth went to Medina in a caravan, and that he was in the midst of the caravan

little and saw the unexpected view of the walls of Jerusalem, with its towers and its battlements, as though they were, wrapping his face in his mantle, saying that was not either one paradise nor that paradise was there. The Arabs called the Damascus Oasis "The garden of the world."

So Hiram was in a rage because of how he had been treated by Elisha. But one of his servants came to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it?" "Yes," said Hiram, "but what he says to you, 'Wash and be clean!'"

"So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean."

After this he returned to Elisha and in his presence said, "Elisha, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a servant of the Lord your servant." But Elisha is refusing it and said, "As the Lord lives, when I serve, I will receive none." But Hiram insisted, and Elisha still refused to accept payment of any kind. Hiram then makes a very strange request when he says, "If not, I pray you, let there be given to your servant two mules burdened with wheat; for henceforth your servant will not offer burnt offerings or sacrifice to any god but the Lord." He tells Elisha that when he goes into the house of worship of the god Rimmon back home in Syria, he will merely be paying token respect to that god, but will actually only worship the true God of Israel. Elisha tells him, "Do as please."

What is really taking place in the latter part of this story is that it was believed by the people of the lands surrounding Israel, that God could only be worshipped on the land of Israel. So if they returned to Syria or to their country and took heed of the will of

Israel, they could worship the God of Israel, since in effect they would be doing so on soil from Israel.

Pharman had left Syria a diseased man. I was worried about his health, about his station in life, and about all of the things that might come to pass if he remained diseased. He came to Israel needing a miracle, but instead he received an instruction to do something that would heal him. He expected to receive some great formalization by the people of God. He expected to have words said over him to heal him, and was shocked first of all that the prophets did not come to his healing, and secondly because what he was told was so childish it was almost ridiculous.

But when he returned to the people of God, and took the necessary responsibility for healing, he was so fully healed. And that's the way it required of you and ^{ME} ~~ME~~ There is no substitute for the old river Jordan. Pharman was not told that healing is most parts of the world for healing and he was disappointed. He was in London, France or in that place in Canada, working healing and never tried it. Pharman completed his trials, stilled his voice, and found himself that he was, was that and found seven times into the Jordan, and "His flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean."

It is still with you and wither that hope under a modern Pharman from receiving the blessing that came to that ancient Israel. If we can forget the spirit and the voice, and put off our individual attitudes, and our selfish love of the flesh and the flesh and the steps of the life giving gift of God, then your flesh can be restored like the flesh of a little child, and he can become clean. If you work on the body, you will be a real wonder in God's name, if each day we can say like John's word, the Bible, if we can spend your hands, then healing like Pharman's power, then the miracle can be

— 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581,

A very good + concise summary. The language is the development of the theme as well as the application of the text as is good.

"Mr. Clean!"

Text: II Kings 5:14, "So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan according to the word of the son of man; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean."

Naaman was the commander-in-chief of the Syrian army during the days of King Izan. He was a very great man in his nation and held in very high esteem by the king. It was through his valor and courage that Syria had won out over her enemies. ^{was} There was one thing wrong with Naaman, he had a leprosy. ^{was} He was a leper and not only a leper, but in certain areas it was particularly one that passed off from his country into the Syrian people. He himself was concerned about his disease.

When the Syrian army had made a raid on xx x village of Israel they had captured a little Jewish maid and had brought her back to Syria. This maid was the wife of Naaman's wife. In a conversation with Naaman's wife she remarked one day, "Would that my ~~leprosy~~ ^{leprosy} were like the leprosy of the Syrian maid, so that I could be like her." Naaman's wife told him of this conversation and he xx went to the king and ^{REPORTED TO} ~~said~~ his wife was the Jewish maid and said, concerning his disease. King Izan told him, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."

So Naaman departed for Israel taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand pounds of gold, and the costly garments. The silver and gold amounted to approximately \$1,000,000 dollars. He arrived at the court of the king of Israel and presented these gifts before the king of Israel. The letter read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy."

When the king of Israel read this letter he rent his clothes, and began to pray the Lord for Naaman. He said, "The Lord, he will cure him."

The above information was obtained from the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., and is being furnished to you for your information.

Sincerely,
Special Agent in Charge

the arrival of Naaman and of the king's dismay over his visit. There is a warning to the king and his people that he is not to be trusted. That is the message to the king, "That he will come, that there is a danger to the king."

[illegible]

RE: LA 44-1504, Article 11, Section 11, California Constitution.
The powers of the courts are vested in the courts of justice.
There is no judicial power vested in any other body or person.
It is the duty of the courts to preserve the rights of the people.

The following is a copy of the letter from the [redacted] to the [redacted] dated [redacted] 1964. The letter is addressed to the [redacted] and is signed by [redacted]. The letter contains the following information: [redacted]

[illegible]

After this he returned to Chicago and in the preceding week,
Chicago, I have been with them in an effort to get some good lead in Chicago;
he thought that I would have been better off in Chicago in reference to
and, the two days before, some I have, I will be very soon. I am
happy to find that Chicago will be a good place to stay.

[illegible]

What is really being done in the latter part of the story is that it has been stated that the people of the land surrounding Israel, both who could only be absorbed in the land of Israel. As all they returned to Syria or another country and took some of the soil of Israel, they could absorb the soil of Israel, since in effect they would be doing so on soil from Israel.

[illegible][illegible]

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 27, 1974

MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHORUS DIRECTOR
BILL MATTERSON, STEVE BASEMORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

- PRELUDE: "JOYFUL" WELLY
SILENT PRAYER
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 7 "REJOICE, YE PURE IN HEART"
*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN
*EXHORTATION
*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O GOD, WHO ART RICH IN MERCY TOWARD ALL, WE CONFESS BEFORE THEE: ALL OUR DEEP CONCERN OVER OUR OWN INTERESTS, AND OUR THOUGHTLESSNESS OF OTHERS; OUR NEEDLESS ANXIETIES AND THE TIMIDITIES IN THE FACE OF THY CALLS TO DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY; OUR LOVE OF OLD ERRORS AND OUR DISTRUST OF THE TRUTH WHICH WOULD LEAD US IN NEW WAYS; OUR BLIND CONFIDENCE IN FALSE GODS, THE HIGHWAYS INTO BETTER THINGS WHICH WE BLOCK FOR OTHERS AND FOR OURSELVES BY OUR DESPAIR. PARDON US FOR ALL OUR SINS -- THOSE WE DO NOT KNOW, AND THOSE WE DARE NOT NAME, AND LEAD US INTO THAT NEW LIFE WHICH IS HID WITH CHRIST IN THEE. AMEN."
*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
*PRAISE
*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.
*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.
*DOXOLOGY No. 551
SCRIPTURE LESSON: HAGGAI 1: 5-9
LUKE 12: 15-21
HYMN No. 131 "O MASTER WORKMAN OF THE RACE"
ORGAN MEDITATION
SERMON: "MR. UNCLE!"
PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
*GLORIA PATRI
*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

ANTHEM: "AMAZING GRACE" ARR. BY J. NEWTON

- *CALL TO PRAYER
*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.
*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE
OFFERTORY
OFFERTORY "BERCEUSE IN A" DELBRUCK
INSTALLATION OF CHURCH SCHOOL OFFICERS
*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 32 "SAVIOUR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME"

- *BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RECESSIONAL" BLAKE
*CONGREGATION STANDING
THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY MRS. GILBERT HEGINSTHAM IN MEMORY OF HER "HUSBAND". SERVING AS URSERS TODAY ARE: *DON KINGSLEY, DAVID CURTIS, GEORGE NAZARUK, PAUL CAMPBELL.
DEACON AND MRS. RAYMOND COVERT WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE OOR TODAY.
THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 218
NURSERY IS PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. LINDA McMILLIN AND MRS. JANE ARMSTRONG.
HOSPITALIZED: MR. RAYMOND MILLER, MRS. R.L. RICHEY, MRS. BETTY FILSON, MRS. DELORES BOTACCHI, MR. W.W. PFABE
*RESERVE NEXT SUNDAY FEB. 3 - 5:30 P.M. - CONGREGATIONAL DINNER AND MEETING. THE DINNER WILL BE TURKISH STYLE, BEVERAGE AND DESSERT BEING FURNISHED. ANY FAMILY WITH MORE THAN TWO IS ASKED TO BRING TWO TURKISH. REV. COOPER WILL BE RECOGNIZED FOR THE WORK HE HAS DONE FOR US OVER THE PAST YEAR AND A CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME FOR REV. LINK AND HIS FAMILY. THE YEARBOOK WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THIS TIME. IF YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION CALL 287-6568 - ROBERT KNAUER'S.
THERE WILL BE A PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING - FOR OLD AND NEW MEMBERS - TUES. - JANUARY 29TH AT 7:00. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE OLD COMMITTEE AS WELL AS THE NEW ONES ATTEND.
DON'T FORGET OUR PASTOR - RALPH LINK WILL BE ORDAINED - MARCH 10, 1:30 P.M. IN OUR CHURCH.

NEW LITURGICAL MEETINGS - 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM

Repeat "The last & only thing

3/

FRIENDS, WHAT DO YOU VALUE IN LIFE MORE THAN ANYTHING
ELSE?

IS IT YOUR HUSBAND, OR YOUR WIFE?

IS IT YOUR CHILDREN?

YOUR POSSESSIONS?

YOUR VERY LIFE?

WILL YOU TRUST IT ALL OVER TO YOUR LORD JESUS CHRIST?

WHY NOT CONSIDER IT WELL, & DECIDE TO BE MR. CLEAN

INSTEAD OF MR. UNCLEAN?

WHY NOT DO IT NOW? TODAY?

2

THE OLD TESTAMENT.

[illegible]

OF HIS LEPROUS

If you recall, I once went to Illinois to be taught, and when
 I got on the bus I remembered to do, on the way. In Chicago I
 tried to get a job at Illinois but Illinois refused. and so ~~there~~
~~there~~ we had that after I had had some of a short distance from
 Illinois, I had been seeing all that has been done, others all of
 this through and used for himself as opportunity to make with out of
 land. He knew by himself, the matter has remained the same as

belong to them. In our nation, saying to live is wrong and by our other
 nation saying to get what is not rightfully theirs is wrong. Thus we
 witness the spread and pervasiveness of greed and
 (Living of the rich and the little boys.)

Jesus said to his followers, "Take heed, and beware of all
 covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of
 possessions." It was saying that whatever we have, we should be satisfied
 with it and not long to have that which is not rightfully ours to have.
 He was saying that we come into this life with nothing and we shall leave
 it with nothing. Now the story is told of Alexander the Great commander
 of armies that upon his death, his hands were not to be washed in
 white gloves as was the custom. But rather, he wished his hands to be
 left bare, so that all who saw his body as it was being carried out for
 burial to the funeral pyre, would see that he left this world having
 nothing with him.

The prophet Isaiah said, "You have looked for death, and, lo,
 I have to live; and when you thought I was dead, I have to live. Why
 say the Lord of hosts. Behold of my house that there is peace, while you
 say yourselves ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and with ~~XXXXX~~ and ~~XXXXX~~." G.O.'s
 And the prophet is saying here is a condemnation of the people of Israel
 looking after their own selfish interests and neglecting the house of
 God. They were called to seek for themselves and their own needs and
 desires but were not concerned with seeking to spread the ~~XXXXXX~~ house.

Thus we see how that striving to live ~~we~~ we have an right
 to desire, but to be an Israelite not only in our private lives, but in
 our church lives as well. We can become so self-seeking that we can
 completely neglect the church. Our two little girls two years ago when
 I was, they would be baptized with whatever title or name we should
 want in building the house of God. We previously say to God, "God's
 better to say, God's son, God's son, and I don't want any to

...for me, very much of me. ...the
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ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 3, 1974
 BOY SCOUT SUNDAY
 MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 DENNIS MASTER, PAULA STEPHENSON - ACOLYTES

 ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE MUSIC: "PRELUDE IN D" SCARMOLIN
 "MENTATION" BERVALL

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 50 "Still, still with Thee"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "MOST HOLY GOD, WHO DOES SEARCH AND PURIFY THE HEARTS OF MEN: GRANT US TO KNOW OURSELVES AS WE TRULY ARE; OPEN TO US THE CONDITION OF OUR SOULS; GIVE US PENITENCE AND FORGIVENESS FOR OUR SINS; ENABLE US WITH STEADFAST RESOLUTION TO AMEND OUR LIVES; DELIVER US FROM CAPTIVITY TO FALSE THOUGHTS AND EVIL HABITS, THAT WITH UNITY OF MIND AND PEACE OF CONSCIENCE WE MAY HAVE OUR FULL RECONCILIATION WITH YOU, AND BE OF THE BLESSED COMPANY OF ALL YOUR FAITHFUL PEOPLE; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: EXODUS 14: 1-14

HYMN No. 303 "Come, ye disconsolate"

*GLORIA PATRI

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "OFFERTOIRE IN B" ARMSTRONG
 SCOUT OATH

ACOLYTE PINS PRESENTATION

RECOGNITION OF GOD AND COUNTRY SCOUTS

ANTHEM: "HE TOUCHED ME" BY WILLIAM GAITHER

SOLO - CYNIDIE SYBERT

SERMON: "SAFETY GLASSES"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 318 "Nearer, my God to Thee"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO" HEYSER

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY THE CARL HOLLEFREUND, JR. FAMILY IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *RAYMOND COVERT, JOHN REDMAN, DAN BOSKO, ROBERT KNALER.

DEACON AND MRS. DAVID CURTIS WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 188.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. HOMER FILSON (BETTY) AND

MRS. ROGER FERREE (HELEN) - 46 1/2

MRS. R. L. RICHEY IS NOW AT JACK'S CONVALESCENT HOME IN HARMONY, PA. 6037.

TODAY 5:30 - CONGREGATION DINNER AND MEETING -

THOSE OF MORE THAN TWO ARE ASKED TO BRING TWO TREES. THE YEARBOOK WILL BE GIVEN OUT AT THE MEETING. BEVERAGE AND DESSERT WILL BE FURNISHED.

THE MEN ARE ASKED TO HELP SET UP TABLE IN THE

UNDERCROFT AFTER THE CHURCH SERVICE.

MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING.

WED. - 7:30 - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING.

THURS. - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE

HAVE ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

ARC SWEETHEART DINNER DANCE WILL BE HELD AT SAXONBURG

FIRE HALL - FEB. 16 - SAT. EVE. AT 7:00 P.M.

CONTACT - ROLAND THOMPSON'S OR CHUCK FENAR'S.

WE HAVE A NEW YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR - CYNIDIE SYBERT.

FIRST PRACTICE IS FEBRUARY 10 (NEXT SUNDAY) AT

6:30 P.M.

DON'T FORGET - TONIGHT 5:30 - CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

WEATHER - 11:17:25

They had completely forgotten been ill-treated
as slaves of Egyptians
Not willing to trust God to care for problem at hand
Moses, man of faith he was, tells them - vs 13,14 (text)
He telling look toward God, forget looking back to
pursuers in Egypt.

In remainder of chap. read how Moses stretches
out rod at command of God; sea divides, they cross
see returns to normal & Egyptians drowned, destroyed
Thousands years passed since people lived this episode
yet human nature not changed significantly.
People still prone to look back in fear instead
ahead in faith.

When I read incident was reminded as salesman calling
industrial plants.
Before enter plants, given hard hat & safety glasses
Most men here know safety glasses, no need to tell,
but for rest, they are special glasses, shield safety
glass lens, gismos on sides protect eyes from side.
Not only protect eyes, make possible work with
little fear, & concentrate on ~~work~~ work better

Today we observe Boy Scout Sunday.
This day we recognize this organiz., & boys who
participate in it.
But must also think of all youth in general
We need to be giving all youth safety glasses for
their lives.

We need to be telling them as Moses did,
"Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the
Lord, which he will work for you today. The Lord
will work for you and you have only to be still."
We need to instill this not only in Boy Scouts, but
in U.S. as well.

It has been source of amazement to me in past few
years that so many of our children do not even know
the most simple of Bible stories.

This is not only sad commentary on U.S. education,
but on the parents & families as well.
We are living in society that wants to shift the
responsibility in many areas.
Trend has been & is continuing, that someone else
must bear the burden.

Someone else must take care of our problems
Someone else must take care of our aged
Someone else must take care of our sick

"Safety Glasses!"

Text: Exodus 14:13,14

"And Moses said to the people, 'Fear not, stand firm,
and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will work
for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today,
you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for
you, and you have only to be still.'

When read history of Jewish nation & beginnings,
read of nation oppressed severely.

Had been enslaved by same people as once friendly.
Story of Joseph & bros how settled & favorites of
Egyptians

But when difficult times, tried solve problems
forgetting about God.

But God came to rescue again, selected Moses leader
God put deliverance in motion thru servant Moses
God heard cry of people.

Bible records:
"And the people of Israel groaned under their bondage
and cried out for help, and their cry under bondage
came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and
God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac,
and with Jacob. And God saw the people of Israel and
knew their condition." Ex. 2:23-25

More people fought to be free of bondage,
more Pharaoh hardened heart & would not release them
Not until plagues, & in particular Passover, Pharaoh
decided to let go.

But even after they left God spoke Moses, & told
how he would harden Pharaoh's heart once again,
at once for all Egyptians would know He was God.

In chap. 14:vs 5 read King told people gone
They wondered what they had permitted to happen.
Now they realized no more slaves & servants
Now they were left to do his work.
So Pharaoh's heart hardened again & pursues
them with army and chariots

He comes upon them while they camped by Red Sea
Vs. 10 people filled with fear.

Here in their lives Jews walking by night not faith
had gotten eyes off God & on men

they began to fear Moses had led astray.
Instead looking up to God, looking back in fear
Reminding fact no longer in safety & security
of Egypt, once held for them.

The message from God is:

"Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord which He will work for you today. The Lord will work for you, and you ~~will have~~ have only to be still."

Be still, and let God put his safety glasses on you,

4/

Someone else must educate our children.

It is the duty of parents to begin to assume our responsibility for the proper education of our children.

We need to begin to teach them what God means to me. What God has done & has been in history.

Our library over there ~~is~~ has many good books of Bible stories, we could be sharing with our child.

Maybe we do not know all about Bible.

No cause for embarrassment.

I do not know it intimately or completely, but we should continue to search and learn.

I can recall as little boy how mother would take time out to answer a child's question.

Regardless what the question, always had answer that led to God.

Many times she would simply tell me Bible story appropriate for the occasion.

She gave me the safety glasses of God.

When all is going well we are able to praise God.

But when smallest trouble comes, we get discouraged and begin to complain and murmur.

This what happened to Jewish people.

They could only stand and look at sea stretching before them.

They could only think here we are without ships, how to escape annihilation.

They would say, "No creek without paddle."

As they looked back saw Egyptians in hot pursuit, & thought slavery better than death.

It is surprising how many of us are guilty many times of looking back to the Egyptians following us or pushing us toward the Red Sea in front of us.

But if we put on the safety glasses of God, & looked toward Him, life would take on its proper perspective.

We take our eyes off the Lord, and we look at ourselves, our needs our wants, our desires, and we forget all else.

We are something like the young man who once ran a little store and looked down and found 10 dollar bill. He spent all of life looking down at ground found dozens of bottle caps, bottles, paper etc, & missed all of the beauty around him.

"Safety Glasses!"

Text: Exodus 14:13,14.

"And Moses said to the people, 'Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will work for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you ~~will~~ have only to be still.'"

~~When we read the history of~~

When we read the history of the Jewish nation in its early beginnings, we read of a nation that was oppressed very severely. They had been enslaved by the very same people who had once been friendly to them. I am sure we all know the story of Joseph and his brothers and how they settled in Egypt and were the favored people of the land. But then they had difficult times and they tried to solve their own problems forgetting about God.

But once again God came to their rescue and selected Moses to be their leader. God put his deliverance into motion through His servant Moses, because we are told that He heard the cry of His people. The Bible records,

"And the people of Israel groaned under their bondage, and cried out for help, and their cry under bondage came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. And God saw the people of Israel and knew their condition." Ex. 2:23-25

The more the people sought to be free of their bondage, the more Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not release them. It was not until the plagues were visited upon the Egyptians and more specifically the Passover, that Pharaoh decided that he would let the people go. But even after the people had gone God spoke to Moses and informed him that He would harden Pharaoh's heart once again, that once and for all the Egyptians would know that He was God.

So we read in chapter 14, verse 5, that the king was told that the people had gone, and they wondered at what they had done. They realized that now they no longer had slaves and people to do their bidding. They were left to do all of the work that the Israelites were forced to perform. Thus, their anxiety that the Israelites had gone.

So Pharaoh's heart is hardened toward them again, and he pursues them with his army and his chariots, and he comes upon them while they are camped at

the sea. And we read (vs 10), the people were filled with fear. Right here in their lives, the Jews were walking by sight and not by faith. They had gotten their eyes off God and on men and they began to fear that Moses had led them astray. Instead of looking up to God in faith, they were looking back in fear toward Egypt. They were bemoaning the fact that they were ~~not~~ no longer in the safety and security that Egypt ^{ONCE} held for them. They had completely forgotten that they had been ill-treated and abused slaves of the Egyptians. They were not willing to trust God to take care of the problem at hand.

But Moses, man of faith that he was on many occasions, tells them, (14:13 & 14). He is telling them to look toward God and forget about looking back to Egypt and their pursuers. And if we read the remainder of this chapter, we read how ~~THE~~ Moses at the command of God, stretches out his rod and the sea divides allowing them to pass through it and after they have crossed, the sea returns to normal again and the Egyptians are drowned and destroyed.

Thousands of years have passed since those people lived through that episode, and yet human nature has not changed very significantly. People are still prone to look back in fear instead of looking ahead in faith. As I read this incident I was reminded of when I was working as a salesman ^{Now} I would call on different industrial plants. Before entering the plant proper I was issued a hard hat and a pair of safety glasses. Most of the men here this morning know about safety glasses, so there is no need for me to explain this ~~this~~ to them. But for those who do not know about safety glasses, they are a special pair of glasses with thick safety glass for the lens, and on the sides they have little gizmos that come out and protect the eyes from something that might fly at you from the side. They not only protect the eyes, but they make it possible to work in dangerous areas, with little fear, and to be able to concentrate on your work.

Today we observe as Boy Scout Sunday. This is a day in which we not only recognize this organization and the boys of this congregation who participate in it, but we think of youth in general. We need to be giving all youth

safety glasses for their lives. We need to be telling them as Moses did a long ago, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. The Lord will fight for you and you have only to be still." With these glasses fitted firmly upon them, our young people and any ~~young people~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ person for that matter, need not fear what is coming from the side, or what has been in the past, but can instead concentrate upon the task at hand, knowing that God will take care of all circumstances.

We need to instill this not only in Boy Scouts, but in our Church School as well. It has been a source of amazement to me ~~that~~ in the past few years that so many of our Church School youngsters, not only here but elsewhere, ~~xxxxx~~ do not know some of the simplest Bible stories. I think this is not only a sad commentary on our United Church of Christ curriculum, but on the parents as well. We are living in a society today that wants to pass the buck all the way down the line. The trend has been and is continuing, that someone else must bear the burden. Someone else must take care of our sick. Someone else must take care of our aged. Someone else must educate our children.

It is time that we who are parents began to assume the responsibility for the proper education of our children at all age levels. We need to begin to teach them what God means to me, and this is what He has done in history. Our library over there has many good books of Bible stories that we could be using as families to teach our children. Maybe we ~~xxx~~ do not know all of the Bible and all that is in it. This is not a cause for embarrassment or shame. I do not know all of the Bible intimately, but I continue to seek in it for the answers I need. I can recall as a very little boy, how my mother would take time out from what she was doing to answer a childish question of mine. ~~xxxxx~~ Regardless what the question was, it always had an answer that had to do with God. Many times she would simply tell me a Bible story that was appropriate for the occasion. She gave me the safety glasses of God.

When everything is going well we are able to praise God. But when the smallest troubles come, we get discouraged and begin to complain and to murmur. This is what happened to the Jewish people. They could only stand and look at

sea stretching out before them. They could only think that here we are without any ships at all, how are we going to escape complete annihilation? We would say, "They were up the creek without a paddle." As they looked back they saw the Egyptians in hot pursuit and they thought back to living there, and even slavery was better than death.

It is surprising how many answers and excuses I get as to why people do not come to church. I call someone on the phone who has not been in church for sometime and immediately I get the reasons as to why not. It is almost as though the preacher is a walking confessional booth. But basically all of the excuses for non-attendance at church, stems from a personal feeling. They are reasons that have turned the gaze of the person away from God and on themselves. And isn't this what causes most of our problems? We take our eyes off the Lord, and we look at ~~our personal wants and needs and desires~~ ourselves. We look at our personal wants, and needs, and desires.

Come to the Lord's new court; sing to the Lord all
the earth! For God is in the world, and greatly to be
praised. Honor and majesty are before Him; strength
and beauty are in His sanctuary.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 10, 1974
MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
DENNIS MASTER, PAULA STEPHENSON - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "SABBATH MORNING" SAVAGE
"ANGANTINO RELIGIOSO" STABILE

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 13 "WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "OH CHRIST, WE STAND AS YOUR
WATCHMEN EVER ON THE ALERT, READY FOR ANY THREAT TO
OURSELVES OR OTHERS. CHRIST THE REVEALER OF GOD AND
AS THE PROPHET SAID, WE ARE YOUR WATCHMEN. FORGIVE US
WHEN WE HAVE DESERTED OUR POSTS. PARDON US WHEN WE
HAVE LET SIN INVADE OUR OWN LIVES OR LEFT THE WAY OPEN
FOR TEMPTATION TO OVERCOME OUR NEIGHBOR. FORGIVE US
WHERE WE HAVE FORGOTTEN TO WARN OUR NEIGHBOR OF IMPENDING
DANGER, AND WHEN WE FAIL TO MEET HIS BASIC NEEDS. AND
AS YOU FORGIVE, GRANT US THE STRENGTH TO STAND FAST AT
OUR POSTS DESPITE OURSELVES. WE TRUST IN THE NAME OF
JESUS WHO DIED TO MAKE US NEIGHBORS. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS."

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY NO. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: EZEKIEL 34: 1-16

HYMN NO. 461 "SAVIOUR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*KAYEN ANN PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "GATHER OF GATHER" T. SCHUBERT

ANTHEM: "GRANT, O GOD, THAT WE MAY BE" DAVIES

SERMON: "LOVE IS THE GREAT VIRTUE"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 551 "O GOD, THOU ART GREAT"

*BENEDICTION AND TRITE FILL AGEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "PRAYER OF THE KING" HAYDN

----- *CONGREGATION RESPONSE-----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS IN THE ALTAR VASES WERE OFFERED BY

MR. & MRS. ROLAND THOMPSON TO THE "GATHER OF GATHER".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: "O GOD, THOU ART GREAT",

STEVE VARD, JIMMY BENAR, AND JIMMY BENAR.

NURSERY IS PROVIDED TODAY BY: MRS. DEBORAH VARD AND

KAREN KENNEDY.

DEACONS MRS. ANN WILLIAMS WILL BE AT THE ALTAR TODAY

REPRESENTING COUNCIL.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 100.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. BETTY FLEMING

TONIGHT - 6:30 - THE YOUTH GROUP WILL MEET IN THE

CYNTHIA SYBERT WILL BE THE DISSEMINATOR. THE MEETING WILL

BE OVER AT 7:30. THIS IS OPEN FOR ALL AGES AND GRADES

AND UP.

COMING UP SOON - FEB. 21 IS THE DAY OF THE LADY'S

DINNER - THURSDAY EVENING AT 6:00 PM. THE YOUTH

FELLOWSHIP HAVE CHARGE OF THE DINNER. TICKETS ARE

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM MRS. DEBORAH VARD AND

ROBERT TAIT.

14/ FEB. 16 - THE ARE WILL BE A DINNER-DANCE

DINNER-DANCE AT THE SAXONIA. THE DANCE WILL BE AT 8:00 PM.

ROLAND THOMPSON AND MRS. & MRS. DEBORAH VARD HAVE

TICKETS. MEET UPSTAIRS FOR THE DANCE AT 7:30 PM.

FLOWER DATES AVAILABLE - FEB. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

CONTACT BEA IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR NAME TAG, PLEASE COME

IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY - THE LADIES WILL BE

YOU LOCATE YOURS.

DON'T FORGET TO STILL HAVE YOUR NAME TAGS WITH YOU

HOME. VASES ARE STILL NEEDED FOR THE ALTAR. PLEASE

TO PATIENTS AT THE LOCAL HOSPITAL. PLEASE BRING

THESE ON THE COUNTER IN THE RECEPTION

14/ FEB. 16 - 1974

(Illustration of sailor disfigured in war)

The author of Hebrews tells us,

"~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~"

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them; and those who are ill-treated, since you also are in the body."

We are to put ourselves in the shoes of the other person.

We are to think what it would be like to be in their circumstances.

When we look at it in this light, life takes on a different complexion.

We can see that life would change radically if we would act in this way.

But too often we are comparable to the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ people of Israel that God was speaking to through Ezekiel.

Too often we are ready to condemn and criticize.

Too often we are content to stand smugly by and gloat over others' misfortunes, thinking that we are righteous and they are not.

It is so easy to ~~pass~~ by the others who are less fortunate than we.

(Illustration of Dr. Paul Mansfield)

Here was a man who loved statistics.

He loved them enough that he gave of his time, his money, his strength, his energy.

Do you love ~~xxxxxxxx~~ those statistics?

God wants us to.

He tells us, vs 15 and 16.

Even if we do not love those statistics He will.

God will seek them out, and search for them, and not give up on them even if we do.

I pray that each of us will go out and minister to those in need in the name of Jesus Christ.

May we support those who need our help, and love those who are unlovable.

And may God guide us that we may always love the parties of broken marriages. That we will love mental patients & we will love the drug addicts, and the criminals,

"Love Those Statistics!"

Text: Ezekiel 34:15,16,

"I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the crippled, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will watch over; I will feed them in justice."

out of every 1000 ended in divorce
In 1971 768 marriages ~~xxxxxxxx~~
or about 3 out of 4 failed.

In 70, 3.3 Americans per 1000 pop. mental patients

In 70 68,864 drug addicts

In 69 -678 violent crimes per 100,000 pop.

In 70 32.3% per 1000 pop. of youth between 10 and 17 were delinquent.

How's that for statistics?

We are a nation of statistics.

You are stats, and so am I.

recently heard that in every car being driven in U.S. there are 1.5 people.

8 out of 10 people prefer a certain toothpaste, and 27% like the president.

Love Those Statistics!

Ezekiel 34: vs 2b, the shepherds have neglected the sheep.

vs 4,5,6 the shepherds have not taken care of the needs of the sheep.

In the NT Jesus tells of a shepherd looking for the lost sheep.

Alfred Seard painted this picture. on canvas

He portrays a very masculine, rough, tough shepherd. Instead of an effeminate shepherd as most are painted

In one hand the crook thrust between some rocks.

With other hand reaching out & down to sheep standing on rocks below him.

Can see straining muscles in hands & arms.

Circling overhead eagles waiting chance to swoop, & attack this meat for a meal.

Evident the sheep not led there by the shepherd

the mt. rock strewn and sheep wandered or fell

whatever the case the shepherd risking life for sheep

That is what God is saying in vs 11 & 12. He will seek them regardless.

the drunkards, the down and outers, and all of the
other statistics that we love to quote.

3/
May we love those statistics and may they become for
each of us, real live men and women who are loved by
God and whom we must show our love, our concern, and
our help.

~~_____~~ 14 ~~_____~~

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 17, 1974
 MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 JODI MARTE, GORDON KENNEDY - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE MUSIC "Joy Fills the Morning" WELLS
 "Morning Prelude" GETTING

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 39 "SAFELY THROUGH ANOTHER WEEK"
 *ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "MOST GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL GOD, WHO HAST PROMISED MERCY AND FORGIVENESS TO ALL THEM WHO CONFESS AND FORSAKE THEIR SINS, WE COME BEFORE THEE WITH A HUMBLE SENSE OF OUR OWN UNWORTHINESS, ACKNOWLEDGING OUR MANYFOLD TRANSGRESSIONS OF THY RIGHTEOUS LAW, IN THOUGHT, IN WORD, AND IN DEED. WE HAVE EVERY DAY DONE THOSE THINGS WHICH THOU HAST FORBIDDEN, AND LEFT UNDONE THOSE THINGS WHICH THOU HAST COMMANDED; SO THAT, WHEN WE LOOK UPON OUR PAST LIVES, AND REMEMBER THAT THOU KNOWEST OUR MOST SECRET SINS, WE ARE AFRAID OF THY JUDGMENTS, AND ASHAMED TO LIFT UP OUR EYES UNTO THEE. BUT, O GRACIOUS FATHER, WHO DES REST NOT THE DEATH OF A SINNER, LOOK UPON US, WE BESEECH THEE, IN THY SON JESUS CHRIST, AND FOR THE MERITS OF HIS SUFFERINGS, BE MERCIFUL UNTO US, AND GRANT UNTO US THE FULL AND FREE FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: 10 LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MARK 9: 35-50

HYMN No. 213 "O LORD, TURN NOT THY FACE AWAY"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "ANDANTE SOSTENUTO" LUIGINI

INSTALLATION OF UNDER SHEPHERDS

ANTHEM: "AT WORSHIP" ARR. THOMPSON

SERMON: "A SALT FOR ALL SEASONS!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 217 "ROCK OF AGES"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "MARCH EXALTATION" VAN WOERT

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY MR. & MRS. WILLIAM L. DUTTER IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES". SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *PAUL RIEMER, DARYL TAIT, JOHN GREER, GARY PENAR.

DEACON AND MRS. PAUL RIEMER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY IS PROVIDED TODAY BY ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG AND JANE ARMSTRONG.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. BETTY FILSON, MR. CLARENCE WOLFE - HOME HOLLY COVERT. - HOME (MRS. HULDA LIPPERT 754

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 219.

TONIGHT - 6:30 - YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE

TONIGHT - 7:00 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEETING - 7:30

MONDAY - 7:30 - FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS MEETING

WEDNESDAY - 8:00 - GOLDEN CIRCLE MEETING

THURSDAY - 10:30 - MARY MARTHA CIRCLE - HOME OF MARY

LOU DAVIS.

THURSDAY - 6:30 - BUTLER AREA LAYMAN'S DINNER -

THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP HAVE CHARGE OF THE MEAL AT OUR CHURCH. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM J. WALTER HARMON AND ROBERT TAIT. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A GOOD ATTENDANCE.

> THE UNDER SHEPHERDS WILL HAVE A SHORT MEETING TODAY AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE. ALL MATERIAL IS TO BE IN THE HANDS OF THE CONGREGATION BEFORE ASH WEDNESDAY. ALL YEAR BOOKS THAT WERE LEFT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY UNDER SHEPHERDS.

"11" FRONT

VISITING with wife

Salt necessary ingredient in our lives
too much is trouble, too little is trouble,
must have proper amount to stay healthy

vs 30a, Jesus probably talking to some fishermen &
th knew value of salt.

Fishing in Nova Scotia, St. Margarets Bay.
filleted fish, others in barrel, salt as preservative
until enuf to sell to buyer.

Js. listeners knew needed salt in hot dry climate
else all spoil quickly

vs 50b "Have salt in yourselves."

what does statement mean?

Anyone knows must have salt in selves, a necessity.

Literally could mean shake one of little bottles on
dining room table.

But light of Js speaking is different meaning.

telling disc. that day well as this, preservative of
life must be kept constant supply each life

Preservative of life was, is the Christian life

Christians who lost xian flavor cannot live, act as pre-
servative serving force in world

Several yrs ago man remarked, "If you have anything
peculiarly Christian to say at this hour, for God's
sake say it. If you have nothing to say but the echo
of what is heard on every street corner and in every
luncheon club in the land, for God's sake keep still."

What this man said then applies today as well, and
especially in many cults.

Dr. Carl Manning ~~xxxxxx~~ noted psychiatrist in book
"What Ever Happened to Me?", points out that we
would have less mental illness if people knew what sin
was. He states, "A strange silence coming from our
nation's pulpit about sin & its effects, & its con-
sequences upon people's lives."

Here is man deals daily with people mental problems

He making remark that much mental illness avoided if

~~prexxxxx~~ ministers get back to old fashioned preach

what should be preached.

Here is a portion of salt Js talked about

In our scripture Js gives the admonition of what happen
to someone causing a little one to sin

I wonder how many youth & young people who have attend
church from 12, 13 are aware of all implications of sin

"A Salt For All Seasons!"

Text: Mark 9:50,

Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness,
how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and
be peace with one another."

In scripture Jesus had definite things to say about
how we live.

vs 35, be servants

vs 37, receive children, & will receive Him
if we refuse children we refuse Jesus

vs 40, for us or against us

no middle ground, either completely for or comp, again

Heart of message is vs 42, causing little ones to sin.

Not to do or say anything cause children sin
especially sobering when think of His children we
meet every day

we must guard all we do and say

Then He gives specifics

vs 43 (hands) keep off things, people.

watch hitting, touching, stealing

cut off and not let cause you to sin

vs 45 (foot) walking, stepping over proper conduct
cut off if causes to sin

vs 47 (eye) looking, lust, desiring, wanting
pluck out if cause to sin

Or words, take all things out of your life that
may cause you to sin.

Get away from people, places, things that will let
you fall

Avoid the temptations that will bring down to world
level & its earthly pleasures

He not only warns about sin, but about punishment

vs 48, must always be aware God God of love, but will
not stand by and let do as pleases

And at hour of death usher us into kingdom.

Instead he gives chance to get right and be right.

To deliberately refuse is to invite own punishment

Numerous record of salt.

Yiddish man, "Have I got salt?"

Salt overflows garage, house, store etc.

"Three times a year, a salesman comes here, and
boy can he sell salt."

Going be called upon answer collective, personal sin"
We need know we are missing in our lives.
Let one here this morning can sit back say,
"preacher talk about others in cong, town, not me."
If we do, then as Apostle John says, "A liar and the
truth not in us."

Billy Graham in Atlanta past summer.
contention long before he ever arrived.
not from Non-Christian, but from clergy of mainline
prot churches.
had commentary when we realize Atlanta leads nation,
wonderful statistic of best preacher,
leads nation in Number One City Venereal Disease.

If any city needs crusade should be city with most
immorality.

And we wonder why the silence coming from our
pulpits and not speaking out against sin.

What country needs is not good 5 cent cigar as someone
once expressed

What we need is the GOOD TEN COMMANDMENTS

This would be the Salt as tells us have in lives

Only when Christ living in hearts & lives we have
A SALT FOR ALL SEASONS

It is only when Christ is presented to those who are
in need of reminding that they are sinners, that we
have the proper salt.

Yes, it is only when the pulpits of our land once
again have men everywhere speaking to their people
about sin, and striving to help them to know that even
though we are all sinners, Jesus Christ removes our
sin, and makes us whole.

Only then will we have "A SALT FOR ALL SEASONS."

Say this because during last 6, 8 yrs involved in 3/
Viet Nam.

During this time many preachers were voicing opinions
about immorality of that war.

Which what said right.

While belaboring immoral war, how many were
striving to preach to cong. about immorality/home?

We look at "new morality" & shocked at free love,
pre-marital sex, communal living, wife swapping,
young people living together no marriage,
shake head say, "How, & why come about?"

How many of young people involved never heard the denun-
ciation of this kind of living as coming from Word of
God?

How many have left church disgruntled & discouraged,
never to hear pastor ~~talk~~ speak out against immorality
of all kinds?

We look what I call "New Immorality" in nation, & are
shocked people should be trustworthy will cheat income
tax, break in & spy, bug phones, accept bribes etc.

We ask, "How & why has this come about in nation?"

Yet how many of these same people church regularly &
listened nice little sermons that never once caused
them to look into their hearts & see they sinners?

How many us listened ser. race equal, been convinced
must do something, never been told must start with
brother next door, cross street or some house, for
do otherwise sin.

Law on standard today make us modern Sodom Gomorrah.
Have come believe not sin lie, cheat, steal, extort,
bug, gossip, break into, be immoral & do all things
word of God speaks against.

NO, ALL THESE NOT SINS, ONLY SIN IS TO GET CAUGHT.

We have glorified drunkenness, immorality, lawlessness
& other things films & tv, wonder why young people
act as they do.

We hide behind our stocks, bonds, our cars, built on
sweat of thousands of poor.

Our city, state, federal officials go in office avg
common man, come out millionaires.

All this done in guise of respectability & NO ONE
BETTER OR DARKER TO STAND UP AND SAY SIN, SIN.

I look around me at nation, our people everywhere,
I can't help but think there comes day of reckoning,
& God help us when it does.

"Salt For All Seasons!"

Mark 9:50, "Salt is good; but if ~~salt~~ the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

WERE SEVERAL

Shortly after World War II there ~~was~~ humorous record^{AMONG THEM WAS A RECORD ABOUT SALT} that came out. The man on the record talked all through it in the Yiddish dialect, and all he said had to do with salt. He said, "Salt, have I got salt?" Then he proceeded to explain that he had salt ~~in~~ overflowing his store, his house, his garage. Everywhere he had an overabundance of salt. He remarked that he could not sell the salt, but the punch line went something like this, "Three times a year a salesman comes here, and boy can he sell salt."

Salt is a very necessary ingredient in our lives. We must have a certain amount in our bodies to remain healthy. Too much salt and — we have some problems. Salt is necessary in many ways, as we shall see this morning.

~~Explain the importance of salt in our lives for this morning we find it contains many different~~

In our text ~~Mark 9:50~~, Jesus is talking about salt. He tells His listeners that salt is good. Perhaps some of His listeners were fishermen, they knew the value of salt. In Nova Scotia this past summer we went cod fishing ^{ON A FISHING BOAT.} When we came back ~~to~~ from St. Margarets Bay, the fisherman filleted the fish we wanted and the others he cleaned and packed in large barrels in salt. This salt would act as a preservative until he had a sufficient quantity to ship to the fish buyers.

Jesus goes on to say that salt is only good when it is salty, and if it loses its ~~s~~altiness, then it is worthless. "How will you season it," He asks? ~~The~~ people knew what He was talking about. They understood that salt had to be salty or things would spoil more rapidly in that hot desert climate of Palestine. He told them, "Have Salt in

"A Salt For All Seasons!"

le. Mark 9:50, "Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

In our scripture for this morning Jesus had some very definite things to say regarding our way of living. First he tells us that we must be his servants, vs 35b. Then he tells us that we must receive children because when we do we receive Him. And if we refuse to receive children we refuse Jesus Himself. He points out that we are either for or against Him, when one of His disciples talks about others ministering in His name. Jesus lets it be known that there is no middle ground of belief. We either are completely for Him and follow Him, or we are completely against Him.

But then He really gets to the meat of His message when He says; vs 42. In other words we are not to cause any of His children to sin. We are not to do anything or say anything that will cause another to sin. This is especially stirring when we consider that we all come into contact with many of His children everyday, and that we must guard what we do and guard what we say.

Then He gives specifics for His followers. He says; vs 43 (hands) He is saying; if your hand is somewhere and it is going to sin, like stealing, or hitting someone, or touching someone in a wrong way, cut it off and do not let it cause you to sin.

vs. 45 (foot) He is saying if your foot is going to lead to a place where you will sin, or if you are going to step over the proper rules of conduct and living, then cut it off.

vs. 47 (eye) He is saying that if your eyes are going to lead you astray, that if they are going to look at things that will make you desire them wrongfully, if they are going to cause you to lust, then pluck them out. In other words by all means and as much as possible, remove the things from your life that may cause you to sin. Stay away from things and people that may cause you to stumble. Avoid the temptations that will bring you down to the level of the world and its earthly pleasures.

Jesus not only warns against the sins, but he warns that there is a punishment

for disobedience as well. vs. 48, "where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched." We must always be aware that although God is a God of love, He is not going to stand by and let us do just exactly as we please and then at the hour of our death usher us into His kingdom simply because He is all loving. Instead He gives us every opportunity to get right with Him, and strive to live right and by so doing we can become a part of His kingdom. But to deliberately refuse is to invite our own punishment.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Shortly after World War II several humorous records came out. ~~2111~~ Among them was a record about salt. The man on the record talked all through the record in the Yiddish dialect and all he said had to do with salt. He said, "Salt, have I got salt." Then he proceeded to explain that he had an over-abundance of salt. He had salt overflowing his store, his house, his garage, everywhere he had too much salt. He remarked that he had difficulty selling the salt, but the punch line was, "Three times a year, a man comes here, and boy, can he sell salt."

Salt is a very necessary ingredient in our lives. If we have too much we have problems and if we have too little we have other problems, we must have the proper amount in order to remain healthy.

Jesus told the people that "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how will you season it?" Perhaps some of His listeners were fishermen and they understood what he was saying. When we were in Nova Scotia we went Cod fishing. When we came back in from St. Margarets Bay, the fisherman filleted the fish we wanted and the rest he put into large barrels packed with salt. The salt would act as a preservative until he had a sufficient quantity to ship to the fish buyers.

Jesus listeners must have known that in the hot dry climate in which they lived, things would spoil very rapidly and readily if they were not preserved with salt.

Thus they had a very good idea of what he was saying.

But then he told them, "Have salt in yourselves."

ourselves." But could He possibly mean by that statement? This is a very strange thing for Jesus to be saying. Anyone knows that we each have salt in ourselves, and that it is a necessity of life.

Well, if we take this literally, we are thinking that we need to shake out of those little glass bottles we have on our dining room tables, and this will give us the salt we need in ourselves. But if we look at it in the light of what Jesus was really saying, then it takes on a different meaning.

He was telling His disciples of that day, as well as His followers of this day, that the preservative of life, must be kept in constant supply in each life. The preservative of life was and is, the Christian life. Christians who have lost their Christian flavor, cannot live or act in their lives as a preservative force in the world.

Several years ago I saw remarked, "If you have anything peculiarly Christian to say at this hour, for God's sake say it! If you have nothing to say but the echo of what is heard on every street corner and in every luncheon club in the land, for God's sake keep still!" I think what this man said then, still applies today, and I would say that it applies to many men who occupy many pulpits in the land.

Just this past week a commentator on the radio was telling of a book written by Dr. Karl Menninger the noted psychiatrist. The title of the book is, "What Ever Happened To Sin?" In his book Dr. Menninger points out that we would have less mental illness in our nation if people knew what sin is. He states that there has been a strange silence coming from our nation's pulpits about sin and its effects, and its consequences. ^{AND PEOPLE LIVE!}

~~Here~~ Here is a man who deals daily with mental problems and disorders of all kinds, and he is making the remark that much mental illness could be avoided if our ministers would get back to the old fashioned task of preaching what they should be preaching. Here is a portion of that salt that Jesus was talking about.

This commentary on Dr. Lenninger's book gave me my inspiration for this morning's message. I began to search the scriptures for a passage dealing with sin, and ironically I found ~~xxxx~~ this passage in Mark. I say ironically, because it tells in vivid detail of the effects of sin and what is going to happen to those who sin. In other words it speaks of a hell, and I spoke of hell last week.

In our scripture we read of the admonition of Jesus that ~~for~~ anyone who causes children to sin, it would be better if that person were thrown into the sea. By this we may imply that to permit sin to enter into the lives of children or youth is a very serious offence. Yet I wonder how many of our youth and young people today, who have attended church from say the age of 12 or 13, are aware of all of the implications of sin. I say this, because for the past 6 or 8 years we have been involved in that war in Viet Nam. During all of that time, many preachers were voicing their opinions as to the immorality of that war, and much of what they have said is right. But, while they have been belaboring an immoral war, how many of them have been striving to preach to their congregations of the sin of immorality here at home.

We look at what has been called the "New Morality" in our nation and we are shocked at the free love, the pre-marital sex, the communal living, the wife swapping, the living together of young people without bothering with marriage, and we shake our heads and we ask, "How, and why has this come about?" How many of the young people thus involved, never heard the denunciation of this type of living as coming from the word of God, and how many of them left the church never to hear their pastor speak out against immorality of all kinds?

^{I PREFER TO CALL}
We look at what ~~could be termed~~ ^{WHO} the "New Immorality" in our nation, and we are shocked that people ~~that~~ ^{who} should be trustworthy will steep to cheating on their income taxes, will break into private quarters of others to spy on them, will buy their phones, will accept bribes and

will do numerous other shady things, and we ask, "Now and why has this come about in our nation?" Yet, how many of these ^{SAME} people have gone to church regularly, and listened to nice little sermons that never once caused them to look within their hearts and see that they are sinners.

How many of us have listened to sermons about racial equality and have been convinced that we must help these of minority groups, but have never been told that we must start treating that person living around or near us as a brother, for to do otherwise is a sin?

We have standards in our nation that ~~are~~ make us the modern day equivalent of Adam and Eve. We have come to believe that it is not a sin to lie, to cheat, to steal, to extort, to buy, to break into, to possess, to be immoral and to do all of the things that the Lord of God speaks against. We, all of these are not sins, the only sin is to get caught.

We have glorified drunkenness, immorality, lawlessness and other things in our films and on our television and we wonder why our young people act as they do. We hide behind our skirts and hoods, our corporations built on the greed and the sweat of many thousands of our poor, our city, county, state, and federal officials go into office as average common people, and come out millionaires. All of this is done in the guise of respectability, and no one bothers or dares to stand up and say NO.

When I look around me at our nation, and our people everywhere, I cannot help but feel that there is going to come a day of reckoning, and let help us when it does. We are going to be called upon to answer for our collective and our personal sins, and I believe we should know that we are sinning ^{in our LIVES} ~~when we do~~. There isn't a one of us here this morning who can sit back and say, "Well, the preacher may be talking about many other people in our nation and here in our town, but he isn't talking about me." Because if we do, then we are as the apostle John says, "a liar and the

Call to Worship: God is a spirit: and they that worship Him, must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 24, 1974
MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
JODI MARTE, GORDON KENNEDY - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE: "FANTASIE TRIUMPHALE" MARTIN
SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 31 "FATHER, AGAIN IN JESUS' NAME
WE MEET"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "MOST HOLY GOD, WHO DOES
SEARCH AND PURIFY THE HEARTS OF MEN: GRANT US TO
KNOW OURSELVES AS WE TRULY ARE; OPEN TO US THE
GONDITION OF OUR SOULS; GIVE US PENITENCE AND FORGIVENESS
FOR OUR SINS, ENABLE US WITH STEADFAST RESOLUTION TO
AMEND OUR LIVES; DELIVER US FROM CAPTIVITY TO FALSE
THOUGHTS AND EVIL HABITS, THAT WITH UNITY OF MIND AND
PEACE OF CONSCIENCE WE MAY HAVE OUR FULL RECONCILIATION
WITH YOU, AND BE OF THE BLESSED COMPANY OF ALL YOUR
FAITHFUL PEOPLE; THROUGH JESUS CHRISY OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOHN 4: 1-14

HYMN No. 381 "FLING OUT THE BANNER!"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (STATEMENT OF FAITH)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "TRAUMERE!"

SCHLIMANN

ANTHEM: "THE CHILDREN'S HYMN OF PRAISE" RASLEY

SERMON: "THIRSTY HEARTS?"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 278 "O LOVE THAT WILT NOT LET
ME GO"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO"

HOPKINS

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
THE FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS TO THE "GLORY OF GOD".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *DON KINGSLEY, DAVID
CURTIS, GEORGE PFLUGH AND JAMES MCCLYMONDS.

DEACON AND MRS. MIKE NAZARUK WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
AT THE DOOR TODAY.

TUESDAY - 7:30 - BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - ASH WEDNESDAY - HOLY COMMUNION
(PEW) - THE SERMON TOPIC WILL BE "A CHANGE".

FRIDAY - 6:30 - WORK NIGHT TO PAINT THE LARGE ROOM
IN THE UNDERCROFT. WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET
THAT WAY IT DOESN'T TAKE ANYONE EVERY LONG. THE MEN
ARE TO BRING DROP CLOTHS, ROLLERS (NECESSITY) AND
BRUSHES. THE WOMEN WILL CLEAN THE CUPBOARDS AND
DO OTHER WORK. WE WANT IT NICE FOR THE RECEPTION
TO FOLLOW ORDINATION.

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE MARCH 10, AT 7:30 P.M. FOR THE
ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OUR NEW MINISTER.

MARCH 17 IS STILL OPEN FOR ALTAR FLOWERS - IF YOU
WISH TO HAVE THIS SUNDAY - PLEASE LET BEA TAIT KNOW.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 235.

MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON WILL BE PIANIST FOR THE YOUTH
CHOIR TODAY. MRS. CYNDIE SYBERT WILL DIRECT THE
YOUTH CHOIR.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. LINDA McMILLIN

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. EDWARD WELCHER, MRS. HOMER FILSON, 26/

MISS WINIFRED MCGRODY, MRS. HULDA LIPPOLD. 25/

WE WILL BE RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS SOON - IF YOU KNOW
OF ANY PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS PLEASE PUT THEIR NAME
AND ADDRESS IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR GIVE TO THE
MINISTER.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH - WED. - FEB. 27 - HOLY COMMUNION.

COME ALL MEMBERS, LET US MEET - 10 AM.

WELCHER, LIPPOLD

(Illustration Nikita Krutchev)

More 2 examples. of indiv. who've spent money for that which not bread, to work for that which does not satisfy.

1. one known example, other world leader
What is end result of life lived that way?
For Mastroianni living in dream world
or Krutchev life of disappointment & disillusion
Spent last day isolation in native Russia
For all intents & purposes prisoner of very system he helped shape & mold.

So it is with men who place allegiance in things of world.

Woman came Jesus at well of Jacob

He told her that whoever drinks of that water will thirst again.

But whoever drank of water He gave would never thirst
vs. really saying what Isa said so many yrs before
vs. 1

Prophet then spoke on to listeners & told them
vs 2b - 3c

He is telling them to listen carefully what he says
They are to be eating & digesting proper food & diet
Does not mean just physical food, but spiritual as well

End result is a blessing of fatness

Not that spiritual food would make fat,
but say saying if do things should do, listen to what God saying thru prophet, will have happiness of living in fullness or fatness of Lord.

in fatness used describe rich life, good life.
this term opp. of leanness in OT
leanness spoke of hardship, poverty, bad times etc.
fatness, ease & luxury

Isa saying, "Listen to what I say, hear me, & if do soul shall live
Merely another means to come to God & get right with Him once more.

Is said woman at well, same as Isa only slightly diff way

Isa expressing desires have listeners come to God
- drink of God's water for saving their souls

Is saying, Come to Him, for He was that living water of God, & they would have eternal life thru Him.

Thirsty Hearts

Text Isaiah 55:1-3a,

In America we consume about 30 gal. water per day per person.
We do not drink that much, but this avg. for wash, cook, drink etc.

Is. Israel & Egypt not accustomed this luxury
During time Isaiah vendors walked streets of Near Middle East selling water.

Even today they still do.

The cry of vs 1, "Ho every one who thirsts, come to the waters," must have been a familiar one.

Isaiah uses phrase in invitation to people come forth have needs supplied.

They could see in mind eye man coming down street with water jars either on cart or drawn, or on shoulders, & supplying people's needs

It would conjure up in imaginations the times when they waited time to receive some of precious liquid
But how could they possibly buy without money?
It simply not being done.

When the prophet continues to invite to buy wine & milk without price vs. 1b

It becomes evident he is offering more than milk wine, and water.

The commodity is without price.

In other words it is priceless, cannot have value placed on it, it is so precious.

Now that he has gotten their attention, he asks the thought provoking question, vs 2a

Perhaps Is. paused & gave several examples.

Could told of king wanted all ground around palace to make beautiful.

Was able buy all ground except one vineyard

When went to man he refused.

Evil wife plotted, & had man murdered

Thus King Ahab got his desire, & spent money for that which could not satisfy."

Or he may of told of another king, who looked upon beauty of another man's wife.

His desire so great, he too plotted death of that man

Thus King David got heart's desire, & labored for that which did not satisfy.

Or we could look at our times & days & parallel these incidents with story of Italian Clark Gable, Marcello

MASTROIANNI (Illustration of Him)

We living in world searching & seeking
As has never sought before

3/

B. Graham has called it a ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Relig. Revol.
(Quote by B. Graham)

All round us see evidence this search
Peop striving all ways find answers life's problems
Some seek thru gurus & mystics
Others Buddhism & other secret cults & sects.
But in all this activity is desire find meaning
of life
To find rest for their souls.

(Illustration of Danish boy & Girl suicide).

Many peop unable find answers to complexities life,
seek find it in next, by taking own lives
Unfortunately many succeed
still many others are being rescued by concerned
committed peop

This examp only 1 of many in which indiv. involved
have thirsty hearts.

Hearts parched & dry
cracked from lack of living water, can only come
from God.

They seeking slake thirst in all possible ways
but have only found things of this world like eating
too much salt.

The more salty food we eat, more thirsty we become.

Think of millions of thirsty hearts this day.. that
are panting to have someone say to them,

"Ho every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and
he who has no money, come, buy and eat."

(Illustration of priest & penitent man)

Perhaps some of us are in position where have thirsty
hearts, & are involved in search for God

Perhaps may be feeling alone & lost in the crowd

Do you have a thirsty heart today?

"HO EVERY ONE WHO THIRSTS. COME TO THE WATERS."

COME TO HIM WHO ~~KILLMEIYEXXIXIXEXXATERY~~ IS THE WAY,
THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.

COME TO HIM WHO WILL GIVE, "LIVING WATER, WELLING UP
TO ETERNAL LIFE."

"UNCLINE YOUR EAR, AND COME TO HIM; HEAR, THAT YOUR
SOUL MAY LIVE."

"Thirsty Hearts?"

Text: Isaiah 55:1-3a,

"Ho, every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Hearken diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourself in richness. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live."

Did you know that in America at the last survey made, Americans consume 30 gallons of water per day. This does not mean that we each drink that much, but that is the average figure for washing, washing, cleaning, bathing and so on. People from nations such as Israel and Egypt do not have this type of luxury. During the time of Isaiah, vendors would walk the streets of the cities of the Near and Middle East, selling water. Even today we are told they still do this.

The cry of "Ho, every one who thirsts, come to the waters," must have been a very familiar one. Isaiah uses this phrase in talking the people's invitation to the people to come forth and have their needs satisfied. What could picture in their mind's eye, the man coming down the street with the water jar either on a cart being drawn by an ox, or upon his shoulders, and supplying the needs of the people. It would conjure up in their imaginations, the time when they waited their turn to receive some of that precious liquid. But how could they possibly come and buy without money. This was simply not being done.

Now the prophet continues to invite them to buy wine and milk without money and without price, it becomes evident that he is offering them something more than just wine and milk and water. The something is without price. In other words if it is priceless, it cannot have a value placed upon it, it is priceless.

Now that he has gotten their attention, he asks the very thought provoking question, "Why do you spend your money for that which

and he said that Israel would drink of that water and thirst
again, but, whoever drank of the water that he gave, would never thirst.
Jesus was really saying in another way exactly what Isaiah had said
so many years before. Who, even now who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price."

The prophet then spoke on to his listeners and he said
that, "Hearken diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight your-
selves in fatness." Incline your ear, and come to me; hear; that your soul
may live." He is telling them to listen very carefully to what he is
saying. They are to be eating and drinking the proper food and drink.
He does not mean just physical food, but spiritual food. The end result
of this would be that they would have a blessing of fatness. This does
not mean that the spiritual food would make them fat. It is a way of
saying that if they do the things that should ~~be~~, and ~~be~~ listened to
what he is saying through His prophet, they will have the happiness of
living in the fatness, or the fatness of the Lord. The term fatness,
as used to describe the rich life, the good life. It was a term
that spoke of ease and luxury.

Isaiah was saying, "Listen to what I say, hear me and if
you do your soul shall live." It was merely another means of urging
them to come to God and to get right with Him once more.

Jesus said to the women at the well that "the water that
he would give would well become in a person a spring of water welling up
to eternal life." He was saying the same thing as Isaiah, only in a slightly
different way. Isaiah was expressing the desire to have his listeners come
to God and drink of God's water for the saving of their souls, and Jesus
was saying to come to Him, for He was that living water of God, and they
would have eternal life through Him.

We are living in a world that is searching and seeking as
it has never sought and searched before. Billy Graham has called it a

(Illustration of British flag and ship) (Caption: British flag and ship)

This example is only one of many in which the individuals involved ~~exhausting their own strength~~ have thirsty hearts. Their hearts are dry and parched, and cracked from a lack of the living water that can only come from God. They are seeking to slake their thirst in all possible ways, but they have only found that the things of this world are such like getting the sand with. The more they seek for it, the more thirsty are they.

Think of the millions of thirsty hearts this day, that are longing to have someone say to them, "Ho, every one of you who thirsts, come to the water; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Without cost I will give you bread and meat."

Perhaps some of us may be in the position where we have
beloved friends, and are involved in the midst of the war. Perhaps we may
be feeling lost and alone amidst the crowd. "O for some 'Thirst, Thirst,'"
sings! "Ho, every one who thirsts, come to the waters." Come to Me,
and in "the sea, the earth, and the life." Come to Me who will give
living water, calling us to eternal life." "Thirst your soul, and only
be at home, that you will say, 'Ho.'"

"A Change!"

Text: II Chronicles 7:14,

"MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME HUMBLE THEMSELVES, AND PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR wicked ways, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN, AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND HEAL THEIR LAND."

In 7th chap of 2 Chron is story of Solomon completing Temp of God prior

Actually, in several chaps ~~before~~ this Temp completed Chan 7 merely begins tell what happen after pr of dedi.

God causes fire come from heaven & consumes offerings brot to Temp.

When peop saw, they bowed selves to ground & worship saying, ~~XXX vs 2b~~

The fear of Lord came upon them & they acknowledged G. Sol offered huge sacrifices vs 5 And so House of God was dedicated.

They then came to Temp & with instruments made joyful noise

They made 7 day celebration for dedication

Then 8 day feast after

On 8th day following, or actually 15th day,

Sol sent all back to homes

Then we read, Sol finished all he had planned to do,

& God appears to him at night & says, vs 12,

God is saying the House is acceptable to Him

He comes qualifying statement by God vs 13-14

The promise is conditional, IF MY PEOPLE.

It is not I WILL, but IF.

He will only bless IF they willing be humble,

IF willing pray,

IF willing seek His face,

IF willing forsake evil & seek good.

Then, & only then will He hear & forgive, & heal

that God is seeking is "A change."

He doesn't want them be same old peop time after time

He doesn't want them come Temp off er sac for forgive

only so they do same old thing time after time

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 27, 1974

MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR

MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST

MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR

LODIE MARIE, GORDON KENNEDY - ACOLYTES

HOLY COMMUNION - 7:30 P.M.

PRELUDE: "Lenten Prelude in A Minor" REED

SILENT MEDITATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 51 "ABIDE WITH ME"

*INVOCATION AND PRAYERS

CHORAL AMEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATT. 5: 14-24

*GLORIA PATRI

*EVENING PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "PRAYER OF FAITH"

MARY N

ANTHEM: "THE OLD RUGGED CROSS"

BERNARD

SERMON: "A CHANGE!"

COMMUNION HYMN No. 204 "BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE"

*COMMUNION SERVICE - PAGE 32

EXHORTATION - CONFESSION - ABSOLUTION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

SERAPHIC HYMN

THE INSTITUTION - CHORAL AMEN

AGNUS DEI

HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE RETAIN ELEMENTS AND COMMUNICATE WITH PASTOR)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - DOXOLOGY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 56 "NOW THE DAY IS OVER"

*BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "BENEDICTUS ES DOMINE" CALKEN

"CONGREGATION STANDING"

PLEASE FILL OUT A COMMUNION CARD SO THAT OUR CHURCH'S

RECORD WILL BE ACCURATE. IF VISITORS DESIRE TO RECEIVE

CREDIT AT THEIR HOME CHURCH, PUT THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF

EITHER YOUR PASTOR OR YOUR CHURCH ON THE BACK OF THE

CARD AND IT WILL BE FORWARDED.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY - MARCH 1ST, AT 7:30 -

EVANGELICAL ARMY CITADEL, 142 W. CUNNINGHAM ST.

USERS WILL PASS OUT COMMUNION CARDS AT THE DOOR.

7/
Familiar human working other families,
When some with a reluctant follow the list of
the world.
A position
How soon whole by involved,
A revival of trust, honesty, concern & care.
If soon spread other ways until it has swept Canada
All because several members looked within our hearts.

This God is calling us to do tonight.
He is asking I ok deep into self before partake Comm.
If find hatred toward other member family, confess
it & forgive that person.
If find hatred or grudge against another man wrong,
~~xxxxxxx~~ confess it & forgive that person.
We search very souls & not only seek forgiveness
but to grant it.

If we ~~xxx~~ are Christian enough tonight to forgive someone
we should not only do this, but let that other person
know about it.

In this way we can open that person up to the US, so
that the healing power of the US may work in him or her

I think God is looking at us tonight as we worship,
He saying as said in 16th vs.
Only He is saying to each individually tonight,
"You are a temple that I have chosen in which to
dwell. I have chosen you as a house of sacrifice,
and if you, my people who are called by my name
will humble yourselves, and pray and seek my face,
and turn from your wicked ways, then I will hear
from heaven, and I will forgive your sins and heal
your land."

He is saying, welcome to my Supper in memory of my Son.
But partake of it worthily.
Forgive others tonight, & I will forgive you.
He is asking each of us for "A CHANGE."

2/
Tonight begin penitential journey of Lent
will lead us thru passion of Lord's Saviour JC
Each led, will look different direction of JC.
Look can look at new Act passion play, as unfolds
before eyes in Scripture

All will culminate in death on Good Fri,
& then the glorious RESURRECTION on Easter
If all of you will strive not to miss a thrilling
episode as it unfolds before our eyes, end
Script for eve was not delivered by JC at ~~beg~~ of sin,
but at beg, in Ser, on Mt.

In telling spiritual things
telling, observe comm.
We reinterpret commandments.

Says, if angry with brother almost same as angry & kill
We not insult brother or call him fool,
if do, are subject wrath & condemnation of God.
If come altar, bring gift, remember have something
against brother, or against any other person actually
let not reconciled & then bring gift

Remembered this admonition could read,
"If you come to church to take communion & to observe
my last supper, & while you are sitting there remember
that you have hatred in your heart for someone, or you
remember that you have said you will not forgive some
one for something he or she has done, or if you know
of someone who hates you & bears you ill-will, you
must first pray for that person, or pray that you may
find forgiveness in your heart toward those other
people or God will not forgive you."

Let begin if not forgive, must let forgive.
If you come Lord's Supper seeking forgiveness for sin,
(which, what it is for),
I must be willing forgive forget all wrongs, hatred
which I have held in heart.
Only when we show forgiveness can we be forgiven.

Perhaps never looked at it in this life
but it can effect change & bring about revival that
defies description.

Person preached on this very subject
and soon as that came thru US working in them,
others they had offended or toward whom held
ill-will.
There were so many never spoken many were some small
sounding sermon, poor talked, lurch d, loved

"A Change!"

Text: II Chronicles 7:14,

"If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Scripture: Matthew 5:14-24.

In the 7th chapter of the book of II Chronicles is a story of Solomon completing the Temple of God. Actually in several chapters previous to this he had completed the Temple and chapter 7 begins telling what happens after he had prayed the prayer of dedication.

God causes fire to come down from heaven to consume the offerings that had been brought to the Temple. When the people saw what was taking place they bowed themselves down to the ground and worshiped God saying, vs. 3b, "For He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever." The fear of the Lord came upon them and they acknowledged the Lord.

We are told that Solomon offered huge sacrifices to God and the house of God was dedicated. They came to the Temple and brought the instruments to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. We read that this was a very joyful occasion and they held a seven day celebration for the dedication and a seven day feast following that. So on the 8th day or actually the 15th day after the celebrating had begun, Solomon sent them all back to their homes. Solomon is overjoyed because of the blessings of God. And we read that Solomon had finished all that he had planned to do and God appears to Solomon at night and says to him, vs. 12, "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice." In other words God is saying that this house is acceptable to Him and the sacrifices that are made there will be acceptable to Him.

But then God makes a qualifying statement about all of this. He says, "When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, IF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME HUMBLE THEMSELVES, AND PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN, AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND HEAL THEIR LAND."

But this promise is conditional. It is IF MY PEOPLE. God is saying that He will only bless it if they are willing to be humble, If they are willing to pray, If they are willing to seek His Face, or to look to Him for their help and not rely on human beings. IF they are willing to forsake evil and seek good. Only then will God hear them and forgive ~~them~~ their sins, and heal their land.

What God is seeking from them is "A Change." He doesn't want them to be the same old people time after time. He doesn't want them to ~~come~~ come to the Temple and offer their sacrifices for forgiveness only to go away and do the same old thing time after time.

Tonight we once again begin a penitential journey that will lead us through the passion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Each Wednesday we will be looking at a different direction that the life of Jesus took during this period. Each Sunday we will be looking at a new act from the Passion play that unfolds before our eyes in the Scriptures. All of this will culminate in the tragic death on Good Friday, but in the glorious Resurrection of our Lord on Easter-Sunday. I hope all of you will strive not to miss a thrilling episode of this drama as it unfolds before our eyes.

The Scripture that we read for this evening was not delivered by Jesus during the latter days of His ministry, but was instead delivered at the very beginning of it. This Scripture is taken from the Sermon on the Mount. In it Jesus is telling the people some very practical things. He is telling them for instance to observe the commandments. But then he goes into depth and re-interprets the commandments.

He says that mere anger with your brother is just about the same as actually getting angry and killing him. He says that we are not to insult our brother or call him a fool, because if we do we are liable to condemnation and the wrath of God. He says that if we come to the altar to bring our gift and realize while there that we have something against

Another person, or another person holds ill-will toward us, we are to first get reconciled with that brother and then come and bring our gift to the altar. If we paraphrased this and made it read something like this, "If you come to church to take communion and observe my last Supper, and while you are sitting there remember that you have hatred in your heart for someone, or you remember that you have said you will not forgive someone for something he or she has done, or if you know of someone who hates you and bears you ill-will, you must pray first for that person, or pray that you may find forgiveness in your heart toward that other person, or else God will not forgive you! Jesus is saying that if you want forgiveness you must first forgive. If you come to the Lord's Supper ~~which~~ seeking forgiveness for your sins, which is what the Lord's Supper is for, then you must be willing to forgive and forget all wrongs and hatreds and animosities that you have held in the past. It is only when we show forgiveness, that we are forgiven.

Perhaps we have never looked at it in this light, but it can effect a change and bring about a revival that defies ~~any~~ discription. A sermon was preached on this very subject in Canada and the Holy Spirit as (Check on this illustration) is so often the case, began to work in the hearts of a few people in that assembled congregation. Several who held grudges against other members, went to them and confessed their hatreds. Others who had not spoken to another member of their own family went to them and confessed this sin, and were reunited. Still others who had stolen and shoplifted, went to the merchants and confessed their crime and promised to repay the ~~items~~ owner for the stolen ~~the~~ items. Very soon, a revival of trust and honesty, and love was sweeping across an entire city. It soon spread to the surrounding area. All because several people in a local congregation were moved by the Holy Spirit of God to look within their hearts and to change.

This is what God is calling us to do today, tonight. He is asking us to look ~~xxxxxx~~ deep within ourselves, before we partake of this Lord's Supper. And if we should find that we have a hatred for a member of

our immediate family, He is seeking us to confess it and to forgive that person. He is asking us if we have a grudge we hold against a member of this church family, we are to confess it and to ask for forgiveness. He is asking us to search our very souls and to not only ask for forgiveness by to grant it. If we find that we have not forgiven someone tonight and we find it in our hearts to forgive them, we should also let them know, so that the Holy Spirit may work its healing power in them as well.

I think God is looking at us tonight as we worship here, and He is saying in effect to each of us, "You are a Temple that I have chosen in which to dwell. I have chosen you as a house of sacrifice, and if you, my people who are called by my name will humble yourselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from your wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive your sins and heal your land." ~~He is asking for each of us for a change.~~

He is saying welcome to my Supper in memory of My Son, but partake of it worthily. Forgive others tonight and I will forgive you. He is asking each of us for, "A Change!"

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his
benefits.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT March 3, 1974

Mr. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
Mrs. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
Mr. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAM FRY, SHARL McBRIDE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "Nocturne" LEYBACH
"CHANSON FRIESTE" TSCHAIKOWSKY

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 136 "HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA"

*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "IN THY GREAT MERCY HEAR US,
OUR FATHER, AS WE CONFESS OUR MANY SINS AGAINST THEE
AND OUR BRETHREN. FOR ALL ANGER AND SELF-WILL; FOR
ALL USE OF OUR STRENGTH TO BEAT DOWN THOSE WHO ARE
WEAKER; FOR EVERY UNHOLY DESIRE AND IMPURE THOUGHT;
FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY WHICH IS THE ROOT OF EVIL; FOR
HATREDS AND PREJUDICES WHICH INJURE OTHERS AND CORRUPT
OUR OWN SOULS; FOR LITTLE SACRIFICES ON BEHALF OF GREAT
CAUSES; FOR PLACING DEPENDENCE IN OURSELVES RATHER THAN
IN THEE, FORGIVE US, O LORD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR
SAVIOR AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: 10 LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOHN 12: 1-17

HYMN No. 133 "RIDE ON! RIDE ON IN MAJESTY!"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"ELEGY"

MASSENET

ANTHEM: "THE PALMS" BY FAURE CHOIR, DICK BARTON

SERMON: "TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 138 "WHEN, HIS SALVATION BRINGS"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RECESSIONAL"

BARNES

--- *CONGREGATION STANDING ---

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MR. & MRS. CHARLES FLEEGER IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALLEN BOTACCHI, JOHN

REDMAN, DAN BOSKO, ROBERT KAMMER, CHARLES PENAR.

MR. & MRS. EARL WOGAN WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE

DOOR TODAY.

*HOSPITALIZED: Mrs. BETTY FILSON 261; Mrs. VIVIAN
DALAM 264; RICHARD NICHOLAS 388; Mrs. HULDA LIPPOLD 388
454; Miss WINIFRED McGRADY 388 - BOMH. Mrs. CHARLES
(ELEANOR) McWILLIAMS IS IN BASHLINE HOSP. GROVE CITY.

*TONIGHT - 6:30 - YOUTH CHOIR

7:30 - YOUTH MEETING - EACH YOUTH IS ASKED

*TO BRING A PAIR OF SCISSORS.

*MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING.

*WEDNESDAY - 7:00 - LENTEN SERVICE - "HIS FAITH"

WEDNESDAY - 8:00 - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE

HAVE ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

*LAST SUNDAY THE ATTENDANCE WAS 187 - WED. EVENING

LENTEN SERVICE WE HAD 156 IN ATTENDANCE.

NURSERY IS PROVIDED TODAY BY Mrs. SHARON STAUFFER,

LAUREL STAUFFER AND DEBBIE McBRIDE.

REMEMBER NEXT SUNDAY EVENING AT 7:30 P.M. - ORDINATION

AND INSTALLATION OF OUR PASTOR - HERE AT OUR CHURCH

RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IN THE SOCIAL ROOMS DOWNSTAIRS.

THE LILY CHART IS IN THE NARTHEX - IT WILL SOON BE

TIME TO ORDER LILIES FOR EASTER. SHOULD YOU WANT

ONE FOR THIS SUNDAY - WRITE YOUR NAME AND IN WHOSE

MEMORY YOU WANT IT ON THE SLIP.

*REMEMBER WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICE WILL BE

AT 7:00 INSTEAD OF 7:30 THIS WEEK BECAUSE OF COUNCIL

MEETING.

WELCOME VISITORS

"O Jeru, Jeru, killing the prophets & stoning those /
who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered
your children together as a hen gathers her brood under
her wings and you would not."

And a rather chap of Luke we read he went over city
but with all his involvement with Jeru, becomes
so clearly clear he will take course upon which he
has embarked one of hatred & hostility for him.

He realized at earlier point of life, he on collision
course with authorities.

He told disc "That he was going up to Jerusalem &
there he would suffer many things at the hands of the
chief priest and scribes and gentiles."

Triumphal entry into Jeru just beg of very eventful
& action packed week in life of Js.

If we can let minds wander a little & try visualize
scene before us, I am sure we can almost hear the
swelling roar of crowd as he turns bend in road.

All eyes intent upon road, anxiously awaiting let
climber this dynamic preacher.

All necks and heads, craning & straining to see him
more clearly when he appears.

From roar of crowd up road he is passing by there now
& will appear any moment now.

Now our turn to shout Hosanna even as they have done
for there he is riding slowly past our line of visio

Why he doesn't look like much of anything.

Just common looking man wearing common looking clothes
but yet, with air of regal poise about him.

A man who does indeed command our attention, & yet he
so ~~are~~ as tho he could mingle with any of us, just as
other peop have said.

He now passing beyond our sight & on down road, where
crowd waving, cheering, shouting, throwing palm branches
into path of slowly plodding donkey.

This scene would make anyone pause & reflect, if indeed
all crowd precipitating because in agreement with this
man.

& they actually believed he was the one who came in the
name of the Lord.

Was he really Messiah to them?

Was this promised Son of David?

Was this deliverer of Israel?

Was then likely bulk of crowd there because impromptu
parade had gotten started
some sort local yokel was causing a stir.

"Specially To Jerusalem!"

Act I. "A City"

Text Mark 11:11,

"And he entered Jerusalem, and went into the Temple;
and then he had looked round at everything, as it was
already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve."

"All the world's a stage, and all the men & women mere
players," so wrote Wm. Shakespeare in Merry Wives of
Windsor.

If all world stage, then Js & peop of his time were
also actors upon scene even as we.

We can look our lives being acted out & also see Js
minis. took aspects of 1 large drama.

But rather than look total minis. let us look only
at portion of life that transpired during last week
of his life.

Let us look as tho play unfolding before eyes,
act by act, scene by scene.

This series Tragedy To Triumph, a play in 7 acts.

To day we will look at A City, Jerusalem.

Will be follow script in chronological order,

in case u wondering why Palm Sunday today.

When we eventually come Palm Sunday, hope will be
evident there is set purpose & meaning for presenting
this series in its proper ~~xxx~~ sequence.

Jerusalem for Js very significant place.

Here he first brot as baby, so mom could be purified
according Jewish law concerning woman & childbirth

& also here Simeon took babe in arms & blessed him.
Perhaps 1st time Mary began understand all of attent

to son, not accidental.

In Jeru. Js separated from parents, then found in
deep theo discussion with leaders & teachers in Temp.

To Jeru he now returning where he acclaimed as
Messiah, the one who came, "In the name of the Lord

To Temp at Jeru he would return sever times last
Jeru days

Also to ~~xxx~~ he taken & tried by Pilate
Outside walls Jeru executed & also buried

So all in all city of Jeru very import in life of Js
of Nazareth

he was also concerned about city

In Matt 23, Luke 13 Js laments over Jeru, says,

For Je it trail by testing
tested his strength, Faith, love

What will this Lenten period test in us?
Will we look at selves in new light?

Will we examine closely our faith & how measures up
to faith of Js.?

Will we test strength by foregoing pleasure of life
in self-denial for a worthy Christian cause?

Will we test our love by renewed dedication to
Church of Jesus Christ?

Or, will it be HQ TTT. another boring period that
involves a lot of extra cleaning, & cooking & fussing
building up to another big holiday at Easter?

You & I are on stage of life at present time.
We involved very deeply whether went be or not, in
the play leading from Tragedy to Triumph.

Today we shout Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.

Is the end result that we too shout "Crucify Him,
Crucify Him" a few days later?"

May we not only acclaim him as Lord at this time of
the year, but may we acclaim him each day of our lives,
May we too know and feel and believe with the author of
Hebrews that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and
today and for ever."

His political adherents were showing him off to nonula
because town crowded tourists & peon there to celebrate
feast of pass.

So why not join in with the celebration & raise a
hoosanna along with rest local residents

Out of this several things emerge very clearly
Je not merely taking joy ride down main st. Jeru

He was acting in fulfillment of prophecy made many
years before by Zechariah.

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud,
O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant & victorious is he, humble and riding on an
ass, on a colt the foal of an ass."

Then secondly setting stage for future actions.
As he rode along must been thinking things thru &
looking situation over very carefully.

Probably well aware, many, many these voices raised
in praise to him, would be shouting for his blood
few days.

Instead, warm friendly smiles, & happy shouts acclaim
probably able visualize sneers, jeers mixed angry
curses, that would replace these happy moments,
when he handed over to authorities.

He able to see crowd is fickle in loyalties
one day acclaiming him as national hero
next it would acclaim him as public enemy number 1

& So in scripture in Mark 11, we told matter of factly,
"He entered Jerusalem and went into the Temple; and
when he had looked round at everything, as it was al-
ready late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve."

"He looked at everything in the Temple," makes the
sc. nature rather interesting at this point.

Why would he look at everything?
What was he looking for?

From the events next several days, evident he doing som
checking on conditions at Temp & plotting next moves.

When a man contemplating decision will have effect on
rest of life, he does so with very careful, serious,
deliberate consideration.

& so Je must have been doing this when "He looked at
everything."

So 1st act has come quickly to close, & all actors have
left stage & are settled in Bethany for the night.

Th. & once again we embarked on journey of Lent.
For each of us should be new adventure self-examination

10/1/16

72

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ACCORDING TO

CC-0.0000

HIS FAITH

GENESIS 22:18, "ABRAHAM SAID, 'GOD WILL PROVIDE HIMSELF THE LAMB FOR A BURNT OFFERING, MY SON.'"

FIG. HE IN YOUR MINDS IF U WILL SETTING OF OUR SCRIPTURE. ABRAHAM SPOKE TO BY GOD & HE RESPONDED BY DOING AS TOLD. RESPONDED TO LAST DETAIL & EVEN TO THE SLAYING OF SON, BUT GOD INTERVENED. THIS STORY TEACHES MANY LESSONS CAN BE COMPARED TO LIFE OF JS. 1ST LET US LOOK AT STORY MUCH CLOSER.

DURING ABE'S TIME SACRIFICE OF CHILDREN COMMON THING. HUMAN SACRIFICE PERFORMED AT WHAT THOT DIVINE COMMAND. IF MAN THOT THIS TODAY & THOTS BECAME KNOWN, HE BE INSTITUTION. WORSE YET, IF HE PERFORMED ACT, ARRESTED FOR MURDER. THIS STORY CAN BE RATHER DISTURBING TO ANYONE READING IT, & REQ IRES WE LOOK AT IT CLOSELY.

HUMAN SACRIFICE AMONG CANANITE TRIBES WAS A CUSTOM. TIME OF ELISHA ABOUT 800 BC, DURING CRISIS IN BATTLE FOR MOABITE CAPITAL, HE READ II KINGS 3:27, KING OF MOAB, TOOK HIS ELDEST SON WHO WAS TO SUCCEED HIM & OFFERED HIM AS A SACRIFICE ON THE CITY WALL.

THIS SACRIFICE MADE TO PAGAN GOD. IF MEN WORSHIPING PAGAN GODS, THEY CARRY THEIR RELIG TO THAT EXTREME, HOW COULD ABRAHAM DO ANY LESS. THE ONLY WAY WAS TO DO AS STERNE DID.

GROWING. ALL AROUND HIM WERE OBEDIENT PEOPLE ~~MAINTAINING~~ THEIR FAITH TO THEM PAGAN GODS.

AND LIT THE TORMENT & HIS LOVE FOR HIS SON. HE KEPT HEARING THAT INNER VOICE TELLING HIM TO SACRIFICE SON. COULD VERY WELL BE THAT MIND ~~WAS~~ DWELLING ON THESE THOTS, THE THOT PRESSED UPON CONSCIENCE & HE INTERPRETED AS VOICE OF GOD.

WHATEVER CASE MAY BE, CLIMAX OF STORY IS REAL REVEL OF GOD. VOICE OF GOD PROVES TO SAY SOMETHING QUITE DIFF FROM WHAT ABRAHAM THOT HE WAS SAYING.

THE CLIMAX IS THAT GOD DID NOT WANT ISAAC SAC.

STORY ENDS ON NOTE OF HAPPINESS & NOT TRAGEDY. GOD SHOWED ABRAHAM TRUE TEST OF PERSONS LOVE IS NOT DETERMINED BY WILLINGNESS TO SAC., BUT BY FAITH.

IT WAS NOT WILL OF GOD THAT ISAAC SHOULD PERISH & GOD NEVER REQUIRED THAT HE SACRIFICE IN THIS WAY. GOD REVEALED HIS TRUE NATURE WHEN HE STOPPED ABE FROM DOING IT.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

4 TEN SERVICE MARCH 6, 1974
MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAM FRY, SHARI MCBRIDE - ACOLYTES

WED. - 7:00 -

PRELUDE: "THE HOUR OF DEVOTION" RATHBURN
SILENT MEDITATION
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 60 "SAVIOUR, BREATHE AN EVENING BLESSING"

*INVOCATION - CHORAL AMEN
SCRIPTURE LESSON: GENESIS 22: 1-19

*GLORIA PATRI
*EVENING PRAYERS AND CHORAL RESPONSE
OFFERTORY

HYMN No. 475 "SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER" STAIRS
SERMON "HIS FAITH"
SERMON PRAYER

*HYMN No. 221 "MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE"

BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE "RECESSIONAL" RAND
*CONGREGATION STANDING

THE SERVICE THIS EVENING WAS SET AT 7:00 BECAUSE OF COUNCIL MEETING. NEXT WEEK THE SERVICE WILL BE AT 30 P.M.

WE ARE HESITANT TO TURN THINGS OVER TO GOD,
MAYBE HE WILL NOT SOLVE THEM AS ~~WELL~~ WELL AS WE CAN

THIS IS PART OF WHAT GOD IS TRYING TO SAY TO US TODAY
BUT GOD IS ALSO TELLING US AS HE DID IN ABE & JS TIME,
DOES NOT WANT OUR SACRIFICES AS MUCH AS HE WANTS OUR LOVE
SEVERAL OF THE PROPHETS PREACHED AGAINST SACRIFICES
HOLD FOR ONE WROTE, "FOR I DESIRED MERCY & NOT SACRIFICES;
AND THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD MORE THAN BURNT OFFERINGS."
WHAT GOD REALLY WANTS FROM US IS OUR COMPLETE LOVE TO HIM

WE CAN BRING ALL OF THE OFFERINGS TO GOD, & WE SHOULD,
BUT IF WE DO BRING OURSELVES AS WELL, ALL OF OUR OFFERINGS
ARE USELESS & MEANINGLESS.

THE SAC JS MADE IS THE SAC GOD GAVE TO US
IF WE ACCEPT JS WE NOT ONLY INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE PROMISED TO
US, BUT WE SHOW LOVE TO GOD BY ACCEPTING HIS GIFT WHICH WAS
SO FREELY GIVEN

OUR FAITH SHOULD BE THE SUSTAINING FORCE IN OUR LIVES
IF OUR FAITH IS AS IT SHOULD BE, THEN WE CAN SING FROM
THE VERY DEPTHS OF OUR SOULS,

"MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE, THOU LAMB OF CALVARY,
SAVIOR DIVINE: NOW HEAR ME WHILE I PRAY, TAKE ALL
MY GUILT AWAY, O LET ME FROM THIS DAY BE WHOLLY THINE."

ABE WAS BLESSED BECAUSE WILLINGNESS OBEY GOD WILL WHICH
HE BELIEVED ABOUT SAC SON
BUT GOD BECAUSE WILLINGNESS TO GO TO LIMIT TO SHOW HIS LOVE
THIS SORT SPIRIT ALWAYS MAKES MAN CAPABLE OF GREATNESS
& COMPLETELY COMMITTED TO WHAT HE BELIEVES
WHEN EVERYTHING MAN HAS IS COMMITTED TO WHAT HE BELIEVES
CAN REACH THE HEIGHTS
WILL THAT ALL OF US WERE IN THAT MIND,
BUT UNFORTUNATELY MOST US HOLD BACK
WE QUESTION "WHAT IF" INSTEAD TRUST GOD COMPLETELY

STORY OF ABE & STORY JS VERY SIMILAR
GREAT DIFFER, ONE ABOUT MAN, HIS SON, HIS GOD
OTHER ABOUT GOD, HIS SON, & MAN.
ONE STORY SHOWS FAITH ABE, OTHER SHOWS FAITH JS
EACH TRUSTED GOD TO EXTREME
EACH HAD COMPLETE FAITH THAT GOD WOULD SEE THEM THRU
THAT GOD WOULD WORK THINGS OUT AS HE CHOSE
THAT NO MATTER WHAT, GOD WOULD BE GLORIFIED

HAVE OTHERS FAITH OF ABE, BUT WHAT OF FAITH OF JS?
ONLY EXPLANATION THAT HE DEPEND COMPLETELY UPON GOD
JS QUESTIONED HIS FATE, WHO WOULDN'T?
BUT WHEN DETERMINED THIS GODS WILL, & NO OTHER CHOICE,
HE ACCEPTED IT
THIS FAITH AT ITS STRONGEST, WE CANNOT COMPLETELY COMPREHEND

ANOTHER PARALLEL IS SACRIFICE
SAC OF ABE TO BE HUMAN, BUT SO WAS SACRIFICE OF GOD
SAC OF ABE TO BE SON, BUT SO WAS SAC OF GOD

THEN HAVE PARADOX, SAC OF ABE DONE FOR LOVE OF GOD,
SAC OF GOD DONE FOR LOVE OF MAN
T1 WHEN WE CONSIDER FAITH OF JS, & COMPARE WITH FAITH OF
ABE WE SEE MANY SIMILARITIES
BUT WE MUST ALWAYS ASK, WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO US TODAY THRU
THE FAITH OF HIS SON & HIS SACRIFICE?
1st HE IS SHOWING US PERFECT EXAMPLE OF FAITH & TRUST IN STORY
OF JS

IF WE COULD POSSESS THIS COMPLETE UNQUESTIONING LOVE & FAITH
IN FATHER, CAN U IMAGINE WHAT CHURCH WOULD BE LIKE?
ALL PROBLEMS & DIFFICULTIES WOULD BE SOLVED
BUT THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH
ALL PROBLEMS ARE MAN MADE & MAN CAUSED BY OUR NARROW MINDED
HUMAN WAY OF HANDLING THINGS
THE REAL PROBLEMS ARE CAUSED BY WE PEOP WHO MAKE UP THE CHURCH
MANY TIMES OUR FAITH IS SO SHALLOW & WE DON'T HAVE THE COM-
plete TRUST IN GOD AS WE SHOULD

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 10, 1974
 MR. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 PAM FRY, SHARI, MCBRIDE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE: "LARGHETTI: QUORI ANDANTINO" RAFF
 SILENT PRAYER

- *PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 65 "THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD"
- *ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN
- *EXHORTATION
- *CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O GOD, WHO ART RICH IN MERCY TOWARD ALL, WE CONFESS BEFORE THEE: ALL OUR DEEP CONCERN OVER OUR OWN INTERESTS, AND OUR THOUGHTLESSNESS OF OTHERS; OUR NEEDLESS ANXIETIES AND THE FRUITLESS FEARS WITH WHICH WE DEFEAT OURSELVES; OUR TIMIDITIES IN THE FACE OF THY CALLS TO DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY; OUR LOVE OF OLD ERRORS AND OUR DISTRUST OF THE TRUTH WHICH WOULD LEAD US IN NEW WAYS; OUR BLIND CONFIDENCE IN FALSE GODS, THE HIGHWAYS INTO BETTER THINGS WHICH WE BLOCK FOR OTHERS AND FOR OURSELVES BY OUR DESPAIR. PARDON US FOR ALL OUR SINS - THOSE WE DO NOT KNOW, AND THOSE WE DARE NOT NAME, AND LEAD US INTO THAT NEW LIFE WHICH IS HID WITH CHRIST IN THEE. AMEN."
- *KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)
- *ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
- *PRAISE
 - *PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS
 - *PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE
- *DOXOLOGY No. 551
- SCRIPTURE LESSON MALACHI 3: 1-3; MARK 11: 15-19
- HYMN No. 316 "JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL"
- *AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)
- *GLORIA PATRI
- *CALL TO PRAYER
 - *PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
 - *PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
 - *PASTOR: LET US PRAY.
- *PRAYER / PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING
 OFFERTORY "LENTEN MEDITATION" CROKER

DEDICATION
 ANTHEM: "BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE" SWIFT
 SERMON: "TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH!" ACT II, A CHURCH

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 318 "NEARER, MY GOD TO THEE"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO" KERN

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MRS. ELLEN BAUER IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES"

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, MONT

MACKINNEY, STEVE VARGO, JOHN SNOW AND JAMES MALONEY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. BARBARA VARGO

AND KAREN KENNEDY.

DEACON AND MRS. CHARLES PENAR WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL

AT THE DOOR TODAY.

> HOSPITALIZED: MR. FRANK MAXWELL, MRS. DORIS ZAVACKY,

MRS. BETTY FILSON, RICHARD NICHOLAS, MRS. HULDA

LIPPOLO, MISS WINIFRED MCGRODY - BDMH; MRS. CAROL

HALL - #124 ALLEGHENY VALLEY HOSP.

WE WISH TO CONGRATULATE MR. & MRS. RODNEY RENDEL ON

BIRTH OF A SON.

> TONIGHT - 7:30 P.M. - ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF

OUR PASTOR. ANYONE NEED NG A RIDE CONTACT THE WILLIAM

PFLUGH'S - TELE. 285-6837. RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IN

THE SOCIAL ROOMS OF THE CHURCH UNDERCROFT.

> THE ALTAR ON THE CHANCEL WAS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF MR. ^{for}

CLARENCE SHAKELY BY MISS CLARA SHAKELY, MISS FLORENCE ^{for}

SHAKELY, MRS. BRUCE, COLT, IND., CRUCIBLE INC., AND ^{for}

CRUCIBLE MATERIALS RESEARCH CENTER, PITTS. PENNA.

FRIENDS OF MR. SHAKELY'S SON - BRUCE SHAKELY.

> WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICE - 7:30 - "HIS LOVE"

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY PROSPECTIVE MEMBER THAT WOULD LIKE

TO JOIN THE CHURCH - PLEASE PUT THEIR NAME ON A SLIP

OF PAPER AND DROP IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR GIVE

IT TO THE MINISTER.

> THE LILY CHART IS BEING PASSED TODAY IN THE CONGREGA-

TION TODAY - ORDERS WILL BE PLACED SOON.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED ON PALM SUNDAY - ALSO

CONFIRMATION CLASS.

147 - 1-10-74 125 - 1-1-74

1-1-1974 1-1-1974 P. G. E. C. C.

abuses selling pigeons, doves surely bad
Pigeons, doves necessary certain sac
birds to be pure & without blemish
guarantee this, priests hired inspectors
examined birds before presented priest as offe
Birds could be bot outside temp as well C of Gent
But birds bot outside rejected unfit for sac.
No buyer had purchase them in same area
The abuse, birds bot outside as good as bot inside
but conspiracy between priest & inspector & sellers
birds bot in Temp cost twice much as birds bot out
as 1/2 the cost in same area be acceptable

Thus peop bilked, cheated, in name of relig
Js merely seeking correct flament abuse
but when chose do this, he challenge powers of Jews
Temp shos known as booths of Annas & were property
of hi priest
This probably why Js bot to Annas after arrest
Thus Annas able way back for causing stir about
temp monopoly

In Temp incident we see fulfillment of proph of Malachi
concerning Messiah.
Malachi tells us, "Behold I send my messenger to pre-
pare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek
will suddenly come to his Temple."

This Js did, but besides coming suddenly to the Temp.,
he was also responsible for fulfilling a portion of
the remaining prophecy which was,
"But who can endure the day of his coming, and who
can stand when he appears? For he is like a re-
finers fire and like fuller's soap; he will sit as
a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify
the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and
silver till they present right offerings to the Lord

Those who felt wrath of Js certainly could not endure
the day of his coming.
And he was striving to cleanse the Temp. so that
right offerings were presented to God.
The priests came from the tribe of Levi,
So when prophet says he will purify sons of Levi,
he is saying that the Messiah will take the priests
to task for their evil ways.

Malachi could have referred to 2nd coming of Christ,
but his prophecy applied to the Temp as well
But Js also concerned with exploitation of pilgrims
coming to God

"I'm only 10 years old"

At II. A Church

At 11:15-17

A 10 year old boy was in a car, we find Js & his
return after night looking at car in Bethany.
But not performed in one of violence & physical force
Men who all along saying, "Love enemies, say those
who hate you, turn other cheek, do good for evil."
All of sudden being surprise of breach & teach
Sorely must be reason for actions
Js was always wanting to gain attention of crowd
He surely taking recent rabious authority?
Was he trying to gain authority?

Just what was motive?
Js was always wanting to gain attention of crowd
He surely taking recent rabious authority?
Was he trying to gain authority?
Just what was motive?
Js was always wanting to gain attention of crowd
He surely taking recent rabious authority?
Was he trying to gain authority?

Next court, Court of Women
Unless women had actually come to sac. could do no
Next, Court of Israelites
It here congregation gathered great occasions
Also was from it that worshippers handed their
offerings to the priests

Innermost court, Court of Priests
Was in Court of Priests that Temp itself stood
In Court of Gentiles was where incident involving Js
took place.

Thru yrs court become commercialized
Went as place prayer & prop but instead become
selling birds animals, exchange money
All this legal proper, but became means priests
exploit peop make money

Each male Jew had pay Temp tax - shekel yr
payable only shekel of sanctuary
many Jews came other countries to feast
they had foreign money needed be exchanged
they charged for this, but abuse of more charge
than necessary
coin exchangers same as loan sharks our day.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

WYNTEN SERVICE MARCH 13, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAM FRY, SHARI MCBRIDE - ACOLYTES

PRELUDE MUSIC: WED. EVE. - 7:30 P.M.
"EVENING PRELUDE" CLARKE
"MEDITATION" NOLTE

SILENT MEDITATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 466 "HE LEADETH ME"

*INVOCATION - CHORAL AMEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOHN 15: 1-17

*GLORIA PATRI

*EVENING PRAYERS AND CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "ANDANTE, LEU, SOSTENUTO" NICODE

HYMN No. 469 "I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR"

SERMON: "HIS LOVE"

SERMON PRAYER

*HYMN No. 55 "SUN OF MY SOUL, THOU SAVIOUR DEAR"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "GRANT US THY PEACE" GOUNOD

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THURSDAY - MARCH 14 - 7:05 - BROADCAST OF COUNCIL

OF CHURCHES - BASKETBALL (SENIORS) - 97.7 ON THE

AIR - WBUT-FM - CHUCK McWILLIAMS WILL BE HOST FOR

THE EVENING. turn dial to WISR AM, then switch to FM

& this approx WBUT FM

SOFTBALL PLAYERS - SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX IF YOU

WOULD LIKE TO PLAY SOFTBALL.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN EASTER LILY FOR THE

CANCEL ON EASTER CALL BEA TAIT. FOR FOUR (4) BLOOM

LILIES IT WOULD COST \$4.00.

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RALPH C. LINK

Letter to the
The Speaker's House

Text: John 15:17, "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Mr. George Washington said of a man he wrote, "I
admired him as he lived. He died on the evening of June 2, 1800.
I was alone at the time. It was the day of his death and
all of the family was at home. Everything had happened so quickly
and only time to speak, and which would be the last words of his
suffering. This was the first of his suffering. It was the quick-
ness of his death and I know it by his life. I had the impression of having
it dictated to me by some divine voice rather than working it out myself.
I am sure that the whole story is related in the minutes and
I am sure that it is the most perfect of its kind in the history of
man."

There is no other story like this in the history of man.

"I love that will not let me go,
I love that will not let me go;
I love that will not let me go,
That is the love that will not let me go,
My heart will follow it."

The thing that makes this love story special is the fact
that the author George Washington could write of a love that would not
let him go, and yet, the author of this story has no love story with
himself at the age of 13. And he has been blind, one could say that
he was capable of accepting this love and learning to live with it.
But here he is telling of a love that is all consuming,
a love that will not let him go, and he speaks of it in
the manner of a strong faith. ~~This is the~~

Isn't this reminiscent of another person? A person who
 was told, "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his
 life for his friends." Jesus accepted this greater love. He knew that
 his entire life was wrapped up ^{also} in ~~and~~ ^{also} involved in an all encompassing love.
 A love from which he could not possibly turn, try as he might. A love
 that would not let him go no matter where he turned or where he went.

A grade school teacher in her arithmetic class asked the
 following question: "If your father sold fifteen hundred bushels of grain
 for 12 per bushel, what would he get?" One little boy answered, "A new
 car." ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ It's apparent he knew his father. So did Jesus.
 He realized that through the ordeal of sacrificing his life, his father
 could take care of him. *His Father's Love Would Not Let Him Go.*

The ~~next~~ two verses of this song continue along the same
 theme of faith in his father.

"I light that ~~xxxxxxxx~~ followeth all my way;
 I yield my flickering torch to thee;
 My heart exchanges its borrowed ray,
 But in thy radiant blaze its day
 May brighter gleam and be.

"Joy that maketh me through all my pain,
 I cannot close my heart to thee;
 I trace the rainbow through the rain,
 And feel the promise is not vain
 That soon shall ~~xxxxxxxx~~ fearless be.

There are many examples of rather famous men and women
 who have experienced hardship in life and have kept a strong and true
 faith in their father which we could cite. I want to do this very
 thing further that all we need to do is look at their example and we too
 can solve our problems. This is one thing ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ thought that is ~~the~~

is called is most contemporary today. The families (children) of
 1940s has been the Marxist class struggle story for a long time. I think
 we are confused with the pattern of it. I certainly want you to find
there, ^{there} work and application reaches the pinnacle of success. This
 is the pattern of our culture, what is working and applied ourselves
to the best of our ability, but to say that we will end up as under
our in the state of the world as well as ourselves. To let history
 of examples of families and individuals imply that if we follow their
 pattern exactly ~~and~~ everything will come out right in the end. However,
 we must realize that we are not our family, individual. This does not
 mean to imply that we should be some of the guidelines of the lives
 of others to improve our lives. As individuals we control a greatly
 portion of our future. We can take life as it is, if we are lucky, &
we can take life as it is if we are lucky. *17 12 00 7 00*

This way think we had to into much detail about this.
 There are several ways how we could make our individual lives more or
 better. But one thing we need to know and that is, that our father is
 with us, and that our faith in him should not just give us a way if we
 are to strive for a better life. Christianity is full of many paradoxes.
 Some pointed out of them out. He said if we would have life, we must
 first lose it. How can we lose our life and still have it? *17 12 00 7 00*
 have heard the father of us that love him. How can we overcome love with
love? *17 12 00 7 00* If we want to first, we must be last, if we want to follow him
 we must give ourselves up to be so. All of these and many more are
 strange to our thinking and in fact the exact opposite of our life
 as we know it. But all of these paradoxes have real purpose and real
 meaning if we seek to be a follower of Christ.

Losing our life for him in order to have life means that
 this life has joy in sorrow, peace in time of conflict, and many other
 strange unexplainable paradoxes as well. This is only possible because

God is there with us, in all things. This then is the true meaning of the word Emmanuel, "God with us."

Mr. Matheson knew this and found it in his life. Jesus knew this and found it in his life. Many other people have found this as well, and so should we.

(Illustration of a boy and a dog) *you have to be a boy, not a dog*

Yes, but Jesus knew. He found enough that to lead him out into the world, that though the world might be cruel,

He knew that life was not so bad,
I have not yet to fly from there;
I say is that like a boy's life,
and from the ground they know, yet
life that shall follow be.

I have used this type of several General, because I think it speaks of what our Christian life and belief should be, and in particular the last verse. But more importantly it also speaks a strength that is needed as well as joy in a time of stress.

The writing of this type involved long hours throughout its composition. I mentioned that Mr. Matheson wrote the words in a matter of about five minutes. Mr. Albert (the one who wrote the words) is telling this story as a suitable excuse to get the hymn so. He was requested to write a hymn. He wrote that he took the words and had it very much carefully and after this, quote, "I wrote the words straight off, and had said that the ink of the first verse was hardly dry when I had finished the last." Not only was the author inspired but the writer of the words. ~~And certainly have been very happy to have~~

(Illustration of a boy and a dog) *you have to be a boy, not a dog*

We have a phrase that is used in relation to religion. *but now we have a new word*
to say that - "God and so found the Lord." *1. The Lord has never been*

1900. She has been waiting since we last met. But she caught me
 and it is now she has been lost. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ She
 has caught me and is still waiting. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ The love of man is
 strong to love and to save that which has been lost." Luke 1:11, Jesus said.
 "He that loves his neighbor as himself, that is the love that his life for his
 friends." ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Jesus said love his life and because of this we
 can also say, "and from the ground there blossoms seed, that death, life,
life that seed, follows us."

"His Love!"

Text: John 15:13,

"Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

When we look at the directions that the life of Jesus took, we become very much aware that one of the directions was in the realm of love. We need only look at his life and we can discover this in very short order.

The rich young man came to Jesus and asked what he had to do to inherit eternal

life. And Jesus told him, and we read, in Mark 10:21, "Jesus looking upon him loved him."

The Apostle John wrote more about the love of Jesus than any other writer.

We read how he wrote that Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus,
how Jesus went over the death of Lazarus and the Jews remarked, "See, how he
loved him." He wrote of Jesus saying, "As the Father has loved me, so have I
loved you." And again, "For the Father himself loves you, because you have
loved me."

- In his Epistles, this same Apostle wrote over and over again of the love of Jesus. So it is evident that Jesus whole life and existence is built on love. He spoke of it many times. He said, love your enemies. Love those who
despitefully use you. Do good to those who hate you and so on.

Dr. George Matheson once said of a certain hymn that he wrote, "I composed it at the manse in Innellan Scotland on the evening of June 6, 1882. I was alone at the time, It was the day of my sister's wedding and all of the family was at Glasgow. Something had happened to me which was known only to myself, and which caused me the most severe mental suffering. This hymn was the fruit of that suffering. It was the quickest bit of work I ever did in my life. I had the impression of having it dictated to me by some inward voice rather than working it out myself. I am quite sure that the whole work was completed in five minutes and equally sure that it never received at my hands any retouching or correction."

Thus came into being those memorable words that all of us have sung so often.,

love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer fuller be."

George Matheson the author could speak of ~~xi~~ a love that would not let him go, and yet he had been stricken with blindness at the age of 15! He had been rejected by his fiancée, and some people believe this was the burden on his heart that he spoke of in reference to this hymn. But he writes in the hymn of a love that is all consuming, a love that will not leave him, nor let him go. Isn't this reminiscent of another person? The person of Jesus Christ. The one who spoke in our scripture tonight and said, Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." We knew that his life was wrapped up in love.

A grade school teacher asked her class in math the question; "if your father sold 1500 bushels of wheat for \$2.00 per bushel, what would he get?" One little boy answered, "A new car."

It's apparent that this boy knew his father. So did Jesus. He knew that no matter what, His father was there with this all consuming love, that He could go forth and give his very life in love, because in return he would have the love of His Father, that would never let him go.

The Christian life that Jesus has left us to live, is filled with many strange paradoxes. He gave them to us and he expects us to follow them. He said for instance, if someone hates us we must love him. How do you possibly love someone who shows hatred? He tells us, if we would be first we must be last. How can anyone possibly be first if he is last? He said, if we would have life, we must first lose it. How could we possibly live, ~~and~~ if we must lose our lives? All of these are strange things, and are the exact opposite of true life as we know it. But all of these paradoxes are real, and have a real meaning if we seek to be a follower of Jesus.

Losing our life for Him in order to have life, means that ~~we~~ this life for a Christian can have joy in the midst of sorrow, peace in the midst of conflict, life in the midst of death, and many other unexplainable paradoxes as well. But all of this is only possible because God is there with us in all

THINGS & IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

1. is only when we truly know this Son of God to the fullest, that we can completely understand what he was saying and doing in the sacrifice of Himself on the cross.

(Illustration of civil war substitute, ~~or~~ seaman substitute)

HE TOOK MY PLACE. HIS WIFE...
We can see in this incident that the individual who gave up his life willingly, was doing exactly as Jesus had said. "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." *JESUS DID THIS FOR US AND FOR THE WORLD.*

We could cite many examples of this type of love that has been expressed in the sacrifice of one life for another. But perhaps when we are speaking about some of these incidents, we may feel, and perhaps rightly so, that we may never be involved in that type of thing. We may never be required to sacrifice ourselves for someone else.

But there is in each of us, that spark that something that would have us gladly give of ourselves for someone else. This does not mean in just the giving up of this life, but of the outward sharing of ourselves. *A Love*

Love
"A young lady thought she had written some beautiful poems about love, and she desired to have them published. After she had arranged to have an interview with the editor of a publishing house, she sat in his office talking to him. The man asked, "what makes you think you know about love? Let me hear some of your poetry. but first tell me what you think love is." The girl began, "Love is, gazing upon a lily pond at night, when the lilies are in full bloom and the moonlight is shimmering upon the water, and ---" "Stop, stop, stop," cried the editor. "You are wrong, wrong, wrong. I will tell you what love is, Love is getting up out of a warm bed on a cold winter night morning, at two o'clock, to care for your ailing children. That is real love. I am sorry we cannot use your poems."

This is the love Jesus was speaking of and was showing in his sacrifice. A modern song tells us. "~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ love, love, love, all you need is love." This may be true, but more than love is needed. It is the addition of self to that love that makes it worthwhile. It is the complete giving of self that is needed. Not necessarily the giving up of life, but the complete surrender of self in love and then if necessary to give up life because of love. This is what Jesus was saying and was showing in His love. This is what he wants from us, that when we see someone in need, we reach out in love, with no thought of reward. This then is all that Jesus said in our text "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends but it is all wrapped up more simply in the words of the Apostle John, when he writes, "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent His Son." This is and was "His Love," his love for you and me and the world.

Discip of obed gotten waylaid in world today 2/
We talk lack of obed to laws, to governments,
most especially to laws of God

Are those tell us "Must do all things, experience
all things in order know what good & bad for us."
This all wrong.

No need kill, know not right
No need steal, know not take others property.
no need get venereal disease, know to be moral

God gave certain laws we must abide by be obed to
these 10 command

in order to keep, do not need break
must discip selves to keep
this Js did

from very earliest we know he did

from life Js lived, examp for us of Xpian obed
it Xpian cause it speaial discip.

it require more love, more understand, any other
we prove by compare other discips

What law of animals?

Survival fittest, right?

other words, look out self, forget others

But with Xpian disip & obed, look out others, care
those need care, help helpless etc.

No send off die like eskimo

we love as self, or supposed to.

What law of savages?

kill or be kill, right?

Xpian obed & discip, love enemies, do good those
hate.

ll this Js say over & over

but do not mean be mamby pambies afraid shadow
this mean try solve problems peacefully,
no can do, use other means

Js showed both sides.

life of love, force in the temp

Js always be yardstick for us

He examps not obsolete some try have believe

they done in his period, but apply 20C as well

If each person practice obed of Js, Xpianity grow
leaps, bounds.

Simply cause we be examp of Xpian obed.

Story late ~~XXXXX~~ Mahatma Ghandi India)

Wanted talk British church officials, no time,
brushed off.

TRINITY CHURCH--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Helen C. Link, Pastor
 Christ Church, Luncheon 9:00 A.M.
 Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP March 14, 1971

The Organ Prelude
 *The Hymn of Praise 157
 *The Call to Worship
 *The Prayer of Confession (Unison)
 O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst give thy life
 for us that we might receive pardon and peace,
 mercifully cleanse us from all sin, and ever-
 more keep us in thy favor and love, who livest
 and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
 ever one God, world without end. Amen.
 *The Lyric
 *The Assurance of Pardon
 The Scripture---Hebrews 5:1-10
 *The Gloria Patri
 Anthem (Trinity)
 Pastoral Prayer
 Announcements
 The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
 *The Doxology
 *The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer
 The Hymn of Meditation 144
 The Sermon---Lenten Reflections
 "Obedience of Christ"
 The Sermon Prayer
 *The Hymn of Response 462
 *The Benediction
 *The Threefold Amen
 *The Postlude

*Congregation Stands

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The special offering for One Great Hour of
 Sharing will be taken next Sunday March 21st
 in both Churches. Special envelopes are in
 the envelope sets for Christ Church members
 and special envelopes are on the table in the
 rear of Trinity Church. Won't you consider
 making some sacrifice this Lenten Season for
 those in need?

CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Win-A-Chum Class will conduct worship services
 this afternoon at 2:00 P.M. at the Kinkora Home.

The Women's Guild will meet on Tues. March 16th
 at 7:30 P.M. here at the Church. This will be
 the Lenten Quiet Hour Meeting.

TRINITY CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mid-Week Community Lenten services will be
 held Wed. evening March 17th at 7:30 P.M. at
 St. Bernard's Roman Catholic Church. Your
 pastor will be the speaker.

At the regular Consistory Meeting the following
 officers were elected to serve for one year:
 Vice Moderator: Joe Darlington, Sr.
 Recording Secretary: Helen Lyons
 Treasurer: Roy Snyder
 Financial Secretary: Lee Boggs
 Ralph Bailer was chosen to fill the unexpired
 term of Stanley Hair.

saw so called Xpian treatment his people. 3/
Made remark, wanted become Xpian, but Xpians saw
heard in action not Xpians they talk about.
"He lost to Xpian world, many millions with him

work of missionaries became more difficult,
cause Xpians talkers & not doers

We are to obey, as Paul tells us, "That you may
be blameless and innocent, children of God without
blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse
generation among whom you shine as lights of the
world."

Contrast this with many a modern day Xpian.
sing of love on Sunday, show hatred other days.
talk of obed & obey only selfish desires motives
rest week.
pray for peace & fight with neighbors

So see, must not be obed will of Father,
but must start toward obed by discip selves do God's
will.

Not just now, this season, but all of life.

Hymn speaks of, "Teach me O Lord thy holy way, and
give me an obedient mind."

Hymns like this should be not only songs we sing,
but prayers on lips, thots in minds
that make aware God's will for us

Next time tempted tell someone off,
pay back for what done us,
ask question, "What Jesus do in this case?"

Parents expect obed of children,
but what of our personal obed in our lives?
Perhaps each strive be more obed to God,
we see change in families, personal lives,
& in many other areas of life.

This another lesson Jesus taught with his life.
Let us seek follow all his footsteps & not just
pick out the ones that are easiest follow.

"He became obedient unto death, even death on a
cross,"

This is obed we cannot match,
but it obed that should strive emulate.

The Challenge of Jesus

Text: 4th. 5:29

For the past few Sundays we have been talking about the qualities which Jesus possessed. We said that He possessed faith, that He possessed love, and that He possessed courage. Today we are going to talk about His challenge. This was one of the greatest qualities that Jesus had. In the Bible concordance by Alexander Cruden, the word challenge is defined as, ^{QUOTE} "the word obedience is most often used in the Bible in the sense of subjection to the will of God, and to His commands. It is used in speaking of Jesus who always did the will of God." ^{UNQUOTE} Jesus was the perfect example of obedience. Paul states that "Jesus was obedient unto death even death on a cross."

We first learn of the obedience of Jesus in the story that is told of the annual visit of His family to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When they were returning home they discovered that He was not with the caravan. Going back to Jerusalem they found Him in the Temple arguing with the learned men. His reply was that He had to be about His Father's business. He didn't show any signs of having missed His parents, nor did He show any signs of having been homesick. In fact His reaction was not the normal reaction of a 12 year old boy. But we must consider that this was not a normal 12 year old boy. This was the growing Son of God. The Messiah. But here He showed His obedience to God by wanting to leave of His and to be in God's Temple with those who were learned in the law and religion.

Then we read of the obedience of Jesus in the temptation in the wilderness at the beginning of His ministry. He spent this time meditating upon His mission and trying to wrestle with and overcome the temptations that would arise during His ministry. He knew that pride would come into His life. He also knew that the temptation to use the power at His command for His own selfish gain would come to Him also. These are the temptations that face all men. Pride in the accomplishment of a good job well done, pride in ourselves or in those of our families. The evil of power is a very powerful thing as we can

witness by the use that some leaders have made of it with partial justice of the world. We can also witness it in parts of our state where elected officials have sought to use their power for their own good. There were the evil Jews who refused to fight. Here He showed His obedience to God by proving that He wanted to serve Him by living as close and as near to God as He could, and this meant throwing everything and all things ^{out of His life} that would ~~disturb~~ or take away from His devotion.

^
DETRACT

The third example of the obedience of Jesus is found in the events leading up to His crucifixion and death. This is the most vivid example and probably by far the best remembered. Here His obedience is the very fullest and deepest form. ~~His~~ The qualities of faith, love and courage were all needed and called upon to go to the limits which this ordeal required. To be able to give up life as freely and willingly requires one other thing that goes hand in hand with obedience and this is discipline. The discipline of control of the emotions, of the body and of the spirit. This could only come from a life that is centered around God. It could only come from a life that is lived in God, where every breath is practically breathed with God. This was the discipline of Jesus.

In our world today we hear many times the mention of the word obedience. Most of it is in reference to civil rights. The word is then civil obedience or disobedience. But the thing that we are talking about here is the word which we read in that discipline has something to do with it. To place this argument in logical order let us look at an example. Suppose there is a young child here on the ground and he wants to touch the boulder that are burning. The proper thing to do is to tell him that he should not touch them because he will get burned. If he would persist in trying to touch the flames, then a father or the proper person would show him that when he will something was not to be done, then this was that was meant. This would be learning obedience through discipline. It isn't proper to let him get burned just to teach him obedience. This could not only be harmful it could be cruel and ingenuitous to the child.

But if he learned that when we call him to something that he would sacrifice the good he has for things that would not good for him. Then he will be spared the pain of sorrow, and sorrowing and every other misfortune that could befall him, if he had to experience the misfortune in order to understand that was not good for him. So you see in order to be obedient we must first be disciplined.

God gave man certain rules to live by. We call these the ten commandments. Now in order to keep the ten commandments we don't have to break them do we? Of course not. Probably one could reason it that we would be punished if we broke some of them. But aside from that we know that it would not be doing the will of God. Since we call ourselves Christians and are trying to live the Christian life it is in our best interests to keep the commandments. Therefore we have disciplined ourselves to do so, haven't we?

This is what Jesus did. He disciplined himself from the very earliest story we have of Him. Therefore we can call this Christian discipline. The reason for putting the name Christian in front of it, is due to the fact that this is a special discipline. This is a discipline that requires love and understanding above any other discipline. We can prove this by comparing it with the disciplining of life. What is the basic law of animal survival of the fittest isn't it? In other words look out for yourself and forget about anyone else. But with Christian discipline it becomes the loving and sharing with those who are weak and ill. It means trying to help those who cannot help themselves. We don't just send them off somewhere by themselves to die or come seeking shelter to, we care for each other and help each other. We love our neighbor as ourselves. Or try to.

Then what is a basic law of the savage? Kill or be killed isn't it? But here again the Christian discipline is one of love. Love your enemies and pray for them. If someone strikes you on one cheek turn the other also. These are words of Jesus. These are words we should live by. Now this is not to say that we are to be little wimpy pambles who are afraid of our shadows.

This would mean that we are to first try and solve our differences with peaceful love and that if this doesn't work ^{then} we must use force if it is the only alternative. Jesus showed us both of these examples when He showed love to those who did not love Him, and He showed force to those who deserted the Temple with their money-making. Jesus should always be the pattern by which we measure our lives. The examples He set are not obsolete for most people would have us think. They were done in the period in which He lived, but we can update any and all of them and apply them in the twentieth century as well.

If each person who is a follower of Jesus could practice the obedience of Jesus, Christianity would grow by leaps and bounds. The story is told of the late great Hindu Mahatma Gandhi in India. At one time he was very interested in Christianity. At this time the British were governing India. Mr. Gandhi wanted to talk to some of the British Church officials and they informed him that they did not have the time to spare him. When he saw how some of these Christians acted toward the Indian people, because of these incidents he said the reason that he wanted to be a Christian, but the Christians he saw talked of one thing and did something else. As a result he remained a Hindu and was not only lost to the Christian Church, but the thinking of some very intelligent people is that Christianity lost thousands of Indians because of this. The reason for this is that the Indian people did whatever Gandhi did. Then the work of the missionaries in India became much more difficult, because the word went out that Christians were only talkers and not doers. This is still very true today. Many people come to Church on Sunday morning and sing about love, and on Monday show hatred. Many people talk about obedience and on Monday and the other days of the week obey only their own selfish desires and desires. We pray for peace and we can't even have peace with our next door neighbor. So we see we must not only be obedient to the will of our Father, but we must start toward this obedience by disciplining ourselves to do God's will. Not just today, but the other days of this week and the weeks ahead. One of my

hymns we sing in, teach us O Lord Thy holy way, and give us an obedient mind.
 The hymns we sing should not be just songs as like 's ring or pretty tunes to
 . They should be prayers upon our lips, and thoughts on our minds that make
 us aware of God and His will for us. The next time we are tempted to really tell
 someone off, or pay someone back for what has been done to us, let us stop and
 ask the question what would Jesus do in this case. We who are parents talk
 about discipline in reference to our children and other people, ^{CHILDREN.} but we should
 also be looking at ourselves and asking Christian discipline in our lives; and
 then perhaps we will be much better people because of it. Let us each try this
 week to show forth some discipline in our lives and maybe we can make a change
 in our own little corner of this world. God grant that we may be obedient to
 His and His will, and that we may discipline ourselves to His will. Let us pray.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 17, 1974
 REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 RICKY VINROE, PATTY BASEHORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE MUSIC: "O DIVINE REDEEMER" GOUNOD
 "THE GARDEN" DEMOREST

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 31 "FATHER, AGAIN IN JESUS' NAME"

*SCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "IN THY GREAT MERCY HEAR US,
 OUR FATHER, AS WE CONFESS OUR MANY SINS AGAINST THEE
 AND OUR BRETHREN. FOR ALL ANGER AND SELF-WILL; FOR
 ALL USE OF OUR STRENGTH TO BEAT DOWN THOSE WHO ARE
 WEAKER; FOR EVERY UNHOLY DESIRE AND IMPURE THOUGHT; FOR
 THE LOVE OF MONEY WHICH IS THE ROOT OF EVIL; FOR
 HATREDS AND PREJUDICES WHICH INJURE OTHERS AND CORRUPT
 OUR OWN SOULS; FOR LITTLE SACRIFICES ON BEHALF OF GREAT
 CAUSES; FOR PLACING DEPENDENCE IN OURSELVES RATHER THAN
 IN THEE, FORGIVE US, O LORD "THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR
 SAVIOUR. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MARK 13

HYMN No. 160 "IN THE HOUR OF TRIAL"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "A LENTEN MEDITATION" OVERHOLT
 ANTHEM: "TIS M. ONIGHT" GOULD - ROLAND THOMPSON -
 SAXOPHONE

SERMON: "A HILL"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 286 "WHO IS ON THE LORD'S
 SIDE?"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO IN E FLAT" MOORHEAD

CONGREGATION STANDING

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
 MRS. CHARLOTTE CHRISTY IN MEMORY OF HER "HUSBAND".
 SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *PAUL RIEMER, DARYL
 TAIT, JOHN OREHER, GARY PENAR, DON KINGSLEY.
 ELDER AND MRS. CHESTER STAUFFER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
 AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. MARGARET
 COVERT AND PAULA STEPHENSON.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. BETTY FILSON, RICHARD NICHOLAS,
 MRS. JANE WATTERSON, MRS. DORIS ZAVACKY - *Handwritten: Mrs. Jane Watterson - Handwritten: Mrs. Doris Zavacky*

TONIGHT - 6:30 - YOUTH CHOIR *Handwritten: TONIGHT*

TONIGHT - 7:30 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP - PLEASE BRING
 SCISSORS.

MONDAY - 7:30 - FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS. *Handwritten: Silent Auction*

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - LENTEN SERVICE "His Obedience"

WEDNESDAY - 8:30 - GOLDEN CIRCLE - REV. LINK WILL

LEAD THE BIBLE STUDY AT THIS MEETING.

THURS. - 10:30 A.M. - MARY MARTHA CIRCLE MEETING.

THURS. - 7:30 - CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION COMMITTEE

TUESDAY - THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE NEED VOLUNTEERS

TO HELP RE-DO THE SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT AT 110

WALKER AVE. CALL BOB KNAUER OR DON KENNEDY - WE

NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET - 6:30 P.M. TUESDAY.

GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST - 6:00 A.M. - YMCA - TICKETS

MAY BE OBTAINED FROM J. W. HARMON OR KENNETH

WEITZEL.

THE EASTER LILY CHART WILL BE PASSED TODAY IN THE

CONGREGATION. IT ONLY WENT DOWN ONE SIDE LAST

SUNDAY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A LILY AND DO

NOT GET A CHANCE TO SIGN UP - CALL BEA TAIT.

Handwritten: 27th AM PM 1974

Handwritten: 11:00 AM

"I saw in the night visions, and behold with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the ancient of days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one, that shall not be destroyed."

Here we see a prophecy pertaining to the 2nd coming of Js.

Here on hill Js imparting news of coming again

Js been hailed as king

Js gone to temp & asserted authority,

All this has raised quests. in minds of disciples

They quest. how safe & secure they are

Here this calm, serene, peaceful indiv suddenly turned on & acting unlike self.

& now he predicting future events.

Js talking specific time in history when he appear again

We can speculate all want,

We can theorize, or intellectualize all we choose,

but fact remains, much written has come to pass

I believe we in latter days & need get rite with God

If bridegroom comes & we not ready, we left out

(Show pics Ala 71, Jerusalem 72)

both show Js in clouds

Some laughed, said trick photography,

Still others ridicule, scoff, sneer.

Others see hand of God in our evil, materialistic, selfish age.

More I think of it, the more I convinced God speaking God giving us a chance to change

In 72 we suffered horrible flood. in Hurri. Agnes

Some looked upon as another natural disaster.

Some scoffed, sneered, said have had others like it

Look at 36 they say.

But I think God speaking in these ways to tell us to change

Woman took picture of clouds during flood,

((Show pic of Js in clouds))

Is all this coincidence?

Is all trickery to sell bibles, kneelers, prayer book

I don't think so, I think God speaking.

"Tragedy To Triumph!"

Act III. A Hill

Text Mark 13:26,

"And then they will see the Son of man coming in clouds with great power and glory. Watch therefore for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning -- lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Watch."

Act I witnessed triumphal entry, this act of acclamation

Act II cleansing of Temp., this act of demonstration

Today Act III, Js leave Temp & going Mt. Olives,

A Hill.

While on Mt. Js speaks prophetically

Read & hear 1st time, concise, vivid language

things come to pass.

1st answers praise for beauty Temp by telling only

matter time Temp utterly destroyed.

Actually took place about 40 yrs after Js, 70 A.D.

Curiosity of Disc. aroused & when reach Mt Ol. they question him.

Especially Pete, Jim, John disturbed,

Ask, "What is going to take place, & when will this

they want to know

Js. tells, men will come say Christ or Messiah

In Acts 8:9 ~~xxx~~ Simon acclaimed by tricks magic,

"The power of God that is called great."

Right now man named Moon from Korea, acclaimed Xp.

Js makes pred about wars, natural disasters

some said no real purpose for predictions or menin

others say ignore them since Temp destroyed & almost

2 millenia past & still no end

Js tells some other things of the signs of the end

but in vs ~~23~~ 24 and 25 he says, (READ THIS)

In Isaiah ironically 13:13 we read,

"For the stars of the heavens and their constellation will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising and the moon will not shed its light."

Js goes on in vs 26 & 27 (READ THIS)

We also read in Daniel 7:13 & 14,

If look what Js said, then look recent happens, 3/
see startling parallels
1st Js say, "The sun will be darkened & the moon will
not give its light."

When flood taking place, no see moon or sun right?
Was cloudy for several weeks, was it not?

Then Js say, "And then they will see the Son of man
coming in clouds with great power and glory."

If look at pics, we see definite form him in clouds.
To me saying prophecies coming true.

You may choose think hoax, trick photo, or something
else

But be well assured that if we choose neglect signs
as gimmicks or tricks,
& laugh off as one big joke, we may laugh selves out
of eternity.

Jerus may be long way off & we can say, "Well, that
was sign for those people."

Ala is also long way off & we can say, "Well, this
a message for those bigotted peop."

But when same thing in back yard, cannot say applies
to others & not us.

Js was telling followers,

"~~look~~ fellows, you know I have been telling you
what is going to happen in the near future. But
what I want to share with you now, is what is going t
to happen in the far distant future.

"Watch therefore -- for you ~~knew~~ do not know when
the master of the house will come, in the evening,
or midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning -
-- lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.
And what I say to you I say to all: Watch!"

for you do not know when the master of the house will come,

HE SPEAKS PROPHEMICALLY.

THE

IT

WITH ME MEANT.

tells

millenia have passed and still

...the ... will ...
... HAS BEEN ...

... Jesus ... place, ...

... the ...

✓

JERUSALEM MAY BE A LONG WAY OFF & SO WE CAN SAY, "WELL, THAT WAS A SIGN FOR THOSE PEOPLE." ALABAMA IS ALSO QUITE A P.E.C.E. FROM HERE, & AGAIN WE COULD SAY THAT THIS WAS A MESSAGE FOR THOSE BIGOTTED, PREJUDICED SOUTHERNERS. BUT WHEN WE HAVE THE SAME THING TAKING PLACE ^{RIGHT IN OUR OWN BACKYARD} WE CAN'T VERY WELL SAY THAT IT APPLIES TO OTHERS & NOT US.

Text: Isalm 27:1.

Speak qualities Js, come know he possess far more
could cover.

Have been dealing more prominent ones, look tonite
His Courage.

More I read about Js in Gos, mor - convinced he
avid student bible.

That's bible that day, Torah-law - books Moses,
Psalms, few others

Doing research this serm, backtracked cross refs
scripture.

1referred me back Is 118:22.

"The stone which the builders refused is become the head of the corner."

This vs is was statent Js about self,
found Mt 21:42, Mk 12:10, Lk 20:17

If Js knew scrips so well, % was fulfillment of it, then it stands reason we read into much scrip, Js either spoken of, or He could do speaking of that certain portion of it.

Case in point scrip for tonite
I visualize Js speaking this Is
Good example His Courage.

Let us look closely:

vs 1, Lord sufficient all needs. He inspiration
all thoughts, ideas that come me. He redeem
at end of life. He will save me.

~~xxx2x~~ No need fear anyone, God with me. Father watching. God strength of all life. in everytning he there. What person indiv must I fear? God always there with me.

vs: 2, when those who would destroy me, came up
against me God worked things out. (Jesus)
in synagogue) They could not touch him.
They ones defeated.

BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICE MARCH 27, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR

MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST

MR. RALPH COOPER, CHORUS DIRECTOR

RICKY VINROE, PATTY BASEHORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 7:30 P.M.

PRELUDE: "EVENING PRELUDE" CLARKE

SILENT MEDITATION

"PROCESSIONAL HYMN, No. 467" "I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY"

* INVOCATION - CHORAL AMEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON: PSALM 27

*GLORIA PATRI

*EVENING PRAYERS AND CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"PRAYER"

HOPKINS

HVMN No. 481

"DAY 18 DYING IN THE WEST"

SERMON:

"HIS COURAGE"

SERMON PRAYER

"WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS"

BENEDICT LION

"RECESSIONAL"

SCOTT

POSTLUDE

- *CONGREGATI

MR. PAUL RIEMER WENT INTO NORTH HILLS PASSAVANT

MR. PAUL RIEMER WENT INTO NORTH HILLS HOSPITAL
HOSPITAL SUNDAY AFTERNOON. ROOM 628 - 4677

TEACHERS TRAINING COURSE - 8PM - 10.30

IL 3 - TEACHERS TRAINING COURSE - FROM 1 TO 3

O'CLOCK. THIS IS THE ONLY TIME IT COULD BE SET UP. ~~THE~~
 1. MARY HARRINGTON TEL MR. AND MRS. MAIL FIVE
 10:00 A.M. BUT NOT → MR. FRANK
 MR. BEN CH. AT TWO P.M.
 HELEN DUNHAM

thing did, being watched reported.
Knew would probably be exec at feast
How else borne torment if not rooted, grounded
God?

This courage u & I should emulate if Xpian
Then tack name Xpian after name, leave open on-
slaughts world.

Fakes courage endure tauntes, smears world has
offer those stand against crowd.

Confirm class boy say, more courage say no etc

Takes courage remain Xpian when those not flourish
do well, business private lives.

Sometimes wonder as Job if worth it.

(Illustration 13 yr girl)

stay 1st nite alone grandma hospital,
said, "I screamed, I hollered, I cried. But here
I am, I made it thru 1st nite, now able make it
till come home,"

This kind courage all need,
be able scream, holler, cry if necessary withstand
wiles devil, evils world

were we adopt words Psalmist,

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall
I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall
I be afraid?"

perhaps would all come conclusion God with us all
ings,

with this assurance of presence God in lives,
we each have courage live life fullest, & to
enjoy life, secure in the Lord.

3/

vs 3, When came as mob, I able overcome thru 2,
God. Even onslaughts enemies may seem like
war, God still with me

4, Sought pattern life proper way. Life lived
mid glories, beauty, Fathers house. Always
sought school self in his word.

vs 5, Whenever trouble arise, God will shelter with
wings. We keep from my enemies. Shall pro-
vide wall of stone, as it were to shield on-
slaughts

vs 6, when take out execute, will be lifte up over
them, (hint way he die?) even this can
sing mercy of God. Will lift up voice even s
at hour of suffer, give thanks, (ex, sing hymn
last sup)

vs 7, When I suffer, please God hear me, answer me
in my hour need, have mercy pon me

vs 8, Have sot u all of life. Have looked for
countenance in all of life, every circumstanc

vs 9, Don't turn away from me God. Face me even
at my most crucial hour. Let me know you
still looking after me. Forsake me not even
darkest hour. (Js quote Ps 22, My God, My
God etc)

vs 10, Even when nearest deashtat desert, u still
there O God. (Ex, mother, bros, sis think
mad, come take away)

vs 11, Show me what do, surrounded enemies, they
out get me. Show me where walk, what do

vs 12, Do not turn me over barbarians, they tell
lies, they sadistic, cruel in way put per-
son death. Js ask remove cup.

vs 13, Could not borne strain, had not seen your
hand my ministry

vs 14, Be patient trust God even as I. Keep strong
be courageous in all do. We strengthen life
give what need. Be patient let God work out
purpose your life.

In all this see Js courage, faces momentous task
set before him

s must always be examp for our lives
think ant courage muster to live last week life
knew full well each action, each word, each

"His Courage!"

Text: Psalm 27:1,

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid."

When we speak of the qualities of Jesus, we come to know that he possessed far more qualities than we could ever cover. We have been dealing with the more prominent ones, and the quality we shall look at tonight is the quality of courage. "His Courage!"

The more I read about Jesus in the Gospels, the more I am convinced that he was an avid student of the Bible. By the Bible I mean, the Scripture that was available at that time. The Torah, or the law of Moses, the Psalms, and several others.

My reason for stating this is that in doing some research for this message, I backtracked to some cross references of Scripture. One of these referred me to the 118 Psalm, and in particular the 22nd verse.

This verse reads:

"The stone which the builders refused is become the head of the corner."

Now in case you do not recognize this verse it is and was a statement that Jesus made about himself in Matthew 21:42, Mark 12:10, & Luke 20:17. If Jesus then knew scripture so well, and was indeed the fulfillment of a very large portion of it, then it stands to reason that we read into much of scripture, that Jesus is either being spoken of, or He could do the speaking of that certain portion.

A good case in point is our scripture for tonight. I can visualize Jesus uttering this Psalm and also use it as a good example of His Courage. Let us look at it rather closely. The 27th Psalm.

The Psalm begins by stating, (Read Psalm verse by verse, sentence by sentence, and explain.)

vs. 1, Lord is sufficient for all needs, He is the inspiration the thoughts and the ideas that come to me. He will redeem me at the end of life, He will save me.

vs. 1 cont.,

I do not need to fear anyone because God is with me, My Father is watching.
God is my strength in all of my life. In everything He is there. ~~xxxxxx~~ what person or
what individual must I fear?
I need to fear? God is always there with me.

vs. 2,

when those who would have destroyed me came up against me, My Father worked
things out. Jesus in the Synagogue. They could not touch me. They were
the ones who were defeated.

vs. ~~3~~ 3,

Even when they come at me as a mob, I will be able to overcome them through
God. Even when the onslaughts of my enemies seem like a war is raging
against me, even in this God is with me.

vs. 4,

I have sought to patternn my life in the propervway. My life has been lived
amid the glories and the beauty of the Father's House. I have always sought
to school myself in His word.

vs.5,

Whenever trouble arises God will shelter me with his wings, He shall keep
me from my enemies. He shall provide a wall, a wall ~~xx~~ of stone as it were
to shield me from their onslaughts.

vs. 6,

When they take me out to execute me, I shall be lifted up over them, but
even in this can I ~~xxxx~~ sing of the mercy of God. I will lift up me voice
in thanks even at the hour of my suffering.

vs. 7,

When I suffer God, please hear me, answer me in my hour of need, have mercy
upon me.

vs. 8,

I have sought to find you in all of life. I have looked for your countenance
in every circumstance of life

vs. 9,

vs. 9,

Don't turn away from me God. Face me even at my most crucial moments.

Let me know that you still are looking after me.

Forsake me not, even in my darkest hours. Jesus quoted from Psalm 22, when on cross he said, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

vs. 10,

Even when my closest and nearest and dearest desert me, you will still be there O God. An example is when mother, brothers, sisters came to take him away, because they thought he was crazy.

vs. 11,

Show me what to do because I am surrounded by my enemies, and they are out to get me. So show me whereto walk and what to do.

vs. 12,

Do not turn me over to these barbarians, because they are telling lies about me and they are sadistic and cruel in the way they put a person to death.

For this Jesus would be asking if God would remove this cup from Him.

vs. 13,

I could not have borne up under all of the strain of doing your will, if I had not seen the evidence of your hand in my ministry.

vs. 14,

Be patient and trust in God even as I have done. Keep strong and be courageous in all you do. He will strengthen your life, and give you what you need. Be patient and give God time to work out His purpose in your life.

Now in all of this we can see the courage of Jesus as He faces up to the momentous task that is set before him. Jesus Christ must always be our example in all of life. Think of the amount of courage he had to muster in his life to live through that last week of his life, knowing full well that each action of his, each word that he spoke, each thing he did was being watched and reported, so that he would be executed at the Feast of the Passover. How else could he have borne this torment if his life was not rooted and grounded in His Father?

This is the courage that you and I ~~shall~~ shall try to emulate if we ~~a~~ are truly Christian. When we tack that name Christian after our names, ~~v~~ we leave ourselves open to the onslaughts of the world. It takes courage to endure the taunts and the smears that the world has to offer to those who dare tocs~~stand~~ against the crowd.

It takes courage to remain a Christian when we see those who are not flourishing and doing well in business and in their private lives. Sometimes we are forced to wonder as Job did, if it is worth it.

(Illustration of girl living with grandmother in 10 room house all by herself, while grandma is in the hospital).

She said, "I screamed, I hollered, I cried. But here I am, I made it through that 1st night and now I know I'll be able to do it until you get home."

This is the kind of courage we all need. To be able to scream and holler and cry if necessary in order to withstand the wiles of the devil, and the evils of this world.

But were we to adopt into each of our lives, the words of the Psalmist, ~~"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is~~

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?", perhaps we would each come to the conclusion that God is with us in all things, and with this assurance of the presence of God in our lives, we will each have the courage to live life to its fullest, and to enjoy this life, secure in the Lord.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 24, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
RICKY VINROE, PATTY BASEHORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE MUSIC: "THE HOLY CITY" ADAMS
"IN JOSEPH'S GARDEN" RABLY

SILENT PRAYER
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 184 "ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME"
*SCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN
*EXHORTATION
*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "HAVE MERCY UPON US, O GOD, ACCORD-
ING TO THY LOVING-KINDNESS; ACCORDING TO THE MULTITUDE
OF THY TENDER MERCIES BLOT OUT OUR TRANSGRESSIONS. WASH
US THOROUGHLY FROM OUR INIQUITIES, AND CLEANSE US FROM
OUR SIN. FOR WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, AND
OUR SIN IS EVER BEFORE US. PURGE US AND WE SHALL BE
CLEAN; WASH US AND WE SHALL BE WHITER THAN SNOW. CREATE
IN US CLEAN HEARTS, O GOD, AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT WITHIN
US. CAST US NOT AWAY FROM THY PRESENCE, AND TAKE NOT THY
HOLY SPIRIT FROM US. AMEN."
*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
*PRAISE
*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.
*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.
*DOXOLOGY No. 551
SCRIPTURE LESSON: LUKE 22: 7-30
HYMN No. 239 "ASK YE WHAT GREAT THING I KNOW"
*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)
*GLORIA PATRI
*CALL TO PRAYER
*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.
*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE
OFFERING

OFFERTORY "PANIS ANGELICUS" FRANCK
ANTHEM: "NOT A WORD" ROSEMARY HADLER - JR. CHOIR
SERMON: "DINING OUT"
PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 287 "GOD OF GRACE AND GOD
OF GLORY"
*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
ORGAN POSTLUDE: "SARABANDE" BACH
----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----
THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
DONN E. MILLER IN MEMORY OF HIS "MOTHER" DOROTHY K.
MILLER'S BIRTHDAY.
SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *RAYMOND COVERT, ROBBIE
VINROE, ROBERT DELLEN, BRIAN PFABE, STEVE SMITH.
ELDER AND MRS. ROLAND THOMPSON WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
AT THE DOOR TODAY.
NURSERY IS PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. LINDA McMILLIN,
MRS. JANE ARMSTRONG AND ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG.
HOSPITALIZED: MRS. BETTY FILSON, MRS. MAE DUYTER.

> TUESDAY - 6:30 - A WORK NIGHT IS PLANNED FOR THE
SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT AT 110 WALKER AVE. MEN AND
WOMEN ARE NEEDED TO HELP RE-DO THE APARTMENT.
> WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - LENTEN SERVICE - "HIS COURAGE"
> GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST FOR WOMEN - YMCA - APR. 12 AT
7:30 A.M. - TICKETS ARE \$2.00 - RESERVATIONS MAY BE
MADE BY CALLING THE YMCA ANYTIME, BUT TICKETS HAVE
TO BE PICKED UP AND PAID FOR BY APRIL 10.
> GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST FOR MEN - 6:00 A.M. - YMCA -
TICKETS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM J. W. HARMON OR KENNETH
WEITZEL.
EASTER LILIES CAN STILL BE ORDERED - CALL BEA TAIT.
TUESDAY - 10:00 A.M. - BOARD MEETING OF THE WOMEN'S
FELLOWSHIP IN THE UNDERCROFT.
THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ARE IN NEED OF 1 LB. COFFEE
CANS - YOU MAY LEAVE THEM IN THE KITCHEN.
THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 243.
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON WILL BE PLAYING THE PIANO
ALONG WITH THE ORGAN TODAY.

GOD GRANT ME THE SERENITY TO ACCEPT THE THINGS I
CANNOT CHANGE, COURAGE TO CHANGE THE THINGS I CAN,
AND WISDOM TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

WIP, 1974 - 105-0000
CMT (CMT) 105-0000 105-0000
PRAYER BOOK - PAPER BOOK - PAPER BOOK

Js asks them, "For which is ^{the} greater, one who sits at table or one who serves?" Is it not the one who sits at table?"

Or words one sits table considered greatest, cause others minister to him, & serve meal.

But Js. say, "I am among you as one who serves." I saying, "Here I at head table, yet not neath my dig to serve u, or wait upon your tables."

"You those continued my trials; as Father appointed kingdom for me, so do I appoint for you that u may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom."

Telling since had ~~friendship~~ served on earth, so will have fellowship with him in kingdom.

When look at passage teaching lesson, not merely story, we see much can learn

1st learn we to be servants ~~stead~~ those waited on But isn't contrary rules society today? Isn't part code, move up ladder lowest rung, then next so on.

Supposed start as office boy, end up pres of corp. What happen if expect pres stamp mail, lick envel? Goes against all standards & rules does it not?

But this Js saying look at church standpoint, fellow start ordinary preacher, move up pres, Assoc, Conf pres, pres church Or fellow start to teach, then deac, then eld, then ruling eld & hold most revered respected person cong, looked up to sought out advice

But too often, that pres, church, ruling elder, thus preach, can lose site fact to serve is to do so even in capacity of pushing broom.

Js not say once gain status, prestige, age, whatever have it made, everyone else works.

Wasn't saying once served certain length time in Kingdom sit back let George do it.

He say, once servant always servant.

He say, no job church should be considered neath dignity

He say, "Look, I show you by my life, my example. If you seek serve me, means whole commitment of your life. It means commitment of all u have. It means commitment to do the necessary thing whether it be sweeping floors, teaching class, being sought after because you have some wisdom. But it means serving

When all arrange taken place, Js arrive scene 2/ room met in commonly room bilt top house private stairway, room often used Rabbi, students, or intimate followers

Js merely follow custom Rabbi, householder merely loan room another teacher.

He said, "And they prepared the Passover."

This prep consist not only sac lamb, getting killed temp, roasting over pomegranate fire on spit, but also other ingred.

Unleavened bread- remind them bread eaten haste when escape Egypt

Bowl salt water - remind tears had shed Egypt, also water Red Sea passed thru

Bitter herbs- horse radish, chicory, endive, lettuce

horchound - remind bitterness slavery Egypt

Paste called CHAROUBETH - mixture apples, dates, pomegranates, nuts - remind clay made bricks, thru it sticks cinnamon remind of straw bricks made

4 cups wine during meal - remind 4 promise Ex 6:6-7

I will bring you out from the burdens of the Egypt

I will rid you of their bondage

I will redeem you with an outstretched arm.

I will take you for a people and I will be your God

Thus all preps made Js now dine out with his men

Much said, written bout meal, little of fellowship

All familiar paint Last Sup Leonardo De Vinci

shows 12 gathered round table Js

Altho pain beautiful, prob misleading

He think all meals as we eat,

use table chairs

days Js lounged cushions placed floor, round low table which food placed.

Perhaps seen movies showing Romans eating thus, this true pic

10th chap Mark read James John come Js ask permit

sit on rt & left Js in kingdom.

Meal signif peop seated meal cording rank

Most import in center

next import his rt

next import left, next import rt again etc

Rt signif since ate rt, talked mostly to rt

Also read in Lk dispute who greatest at Last Sup

wise counsel as always, informed they not look

greatest, but realize they all servants

& greatest is actually he who serves.

me, & forgetting all of the personal things that 4/
motivate you to seek your own stature & your own
power & glory."

B. Js also promised reward.

We realize & receive pay for work,

"& compensated for what we do

"are payment for being servant,

"If you do this for me, then you may eat and drink
at my table in my kingdom."

It is the privilege to share fellowship with Js in
his kingdom.

As always, a payment that is deserved.

Js said, sow sparingly, reap sparingly,

serve sparingly & you will eat drink sparingly my K

Upper Room served as place eat Pass,

As locale for institution last sup

also as another classroom for instruct. faithful

Js taught by word here, but also by example

Next day he showed by giving life as servant of man
kind.

Old hymn tells us, "I will cling to the old rugged
cross and exchange it someday for a crown."

The life of service always means a cross.

It means the giving up of self,

it means losing our identity in Christ in order
partake his kingdom.

Dining out with our Lord, means not only sitting at
table, but serving table as well.

Those who have served him, will reign with him.

Those who have shared in the bearing of Christ's
cross, will someday share in the wearing of his
Crown.

[illegible]

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- 3. All ...
- 4. All ...

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MEAL, 1000 ...

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Come bless the Lord, a' you servants of the Lord!
Lift up your hearts to the Lord, O God, and bless the
Lord! a' the Lord bless you from Zion, he who
is a God of peace.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 31, 1974
REV. RALPH G. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
RICKY VINROE, PATTY BABEHORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE MUSIC: "In Spring" DEMOREST
"CHRIST WEeps OVER JERUSALEM" SERGISSON

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 72 "NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD"

*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "MOST HOLY AND MOST GRACIOUS GOD,
WHO TURNST THE SHADOW OF NIGHT INTO MORNING, SATISFY US
EARLY WITH THY MERCY, THAT WE MAY REJOICE AND BE GLAD ALL
THE DAY. LIFT THE LIGHT OF THY COUNTENANCE UPON US; CALM
EVERY TROUBLED THOUGHT; AND GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE WAY OF
PEACE. PERFECT THY STRENGTH IN OUR WEAKNESS, AND HELP US
TO WORSHIP THEE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY NO. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MARK 14: 26-42

HYMN NO. 144 "GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "THE EASTER PROMISE" WALLACE

ANTHEM: "THERE IS A GREEN HILL FAR AWAY" BY GOUNOD

CHANCEL CHOIR - SOLO - CYNDIE SYBERT

SERMON: "TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 145 "TIS MIDNIGHT"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO" HEYBER

*CONGREGATION STANDING - - - - -

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
ELAINE SKINNER IN MEMORY OF HER "HUSBAND".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALVIN TAIT, JAMES
McOLYMONDS, MIKE NAZAFUK, ALLEN BOTACCHI.

DEACON ALLEN BOTACCHI WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE
DOOR TODAY.

MRS. VICKIE HOLY AND LYNNE BOSKO WILL BE IN CHARGE OF
THE NURSERY TODAY.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. BETTY FILSON, MRS. MAE DUTTER.

TONIGHT - 6:30 - YOUTH CHOIR.

TONIGHT - 7:30 - YOUTH MEETING.

MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING.

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 - LENTEN SERVICE - REMEMBER THIS WILL
BE ONE HALF HOUR EARLY SO THAT COUNCIL CAN MEET.

WEDNESDAY - 8:00 - COUNCIL MEETING.

THURSDAY - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE
HAVE ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY ARE WORK NIGHT IN THE APARTMENT
AT 110 WALKER AVE. THERE IS A LOT OF PAINTING TO
DO - ANYONE THAT CAN HELP MEN OR WOMEN - WE NEED YOU.

REV. AND MRS. GRANVILLE COOPER WILL CELEBRATE THEIR
56TH WEDDING ANN. ON WEDNESDAY - APRIL 3. DROP THEM
A CARD THEY WOULD APPRECIATE IT.

THE YOUTH WILL SPONSOR A BAKE SALE AT THE BUTLER MALL
ON 422 W. NEXT SATURDAY APRIL 6. THEY WILL BE
COMPETING WITH OTHER GROUPS AT THE SAME TIME. THEY
WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT. YOU MAY EITHER BRING
YOUR BAKED GOODS TO THE CHURCH FRIDAY EVENING OR
BRING THEM TO THE MALL SATURDAY MORNING AT 9:30.

WEDNESDAY - APRIL 3 - FROM 1-3 TEACHERS TRAINING
COURSE WILL BE OFFERED IN THE UNDERCROFT.

THE GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER VIGIL WILL BE PASSED THIS
MORNING. THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FROM 7:00-9:00
FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST FOR WOMEN - YWCA 7:30 - CALL YWCA

SAME FOR MEN - YMCA - 6:00 - J.W. HARMON, KEN WEITZEL.

WELL-WISHES

TRINITY CHARGE--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. C. Link, Pastor
 Christ Church, Duncan 9:00 A.M.
 Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP April 8, 1973

- The Organ Prelude
- *The Hymn of Praise 475
- *The Call to Worship
- *The Prayer of Confession (Unison)
 Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest
 nothing that thou hast made, and dost for-
 give the sins of all those who are penitent;
 create and make in us new and contrite
 hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins
 and acknowledging our wretchedness, may
 obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, per-
 fect remission and forgiveness; through
 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- *The Kyrie
- *The Assurance of Pardon
- The Scripture --- Mark 14:26-42
- *The Gloria Patri
- The Anthem (Trinity)
- The Pastoral Prayer
- The Choral Response (Trinity)
- The Announcements
- The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
- *The Doxology
- *The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer
- The Hymn of Meditation 144
- The Sermon --- "Tragedy To Triumph!"
 Act V - Gethsemane
- The Sermon Prayer
- *The Hymn of Response 145
- *The Benediction
- *The Threefold Amen
- *The Postlude

*Congregation Stands

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mercersburg Association Meeting will be held on Sunday April 29th in Charlestown from 2:30 PM to 8:00 PM. The cost for this is \$3.00, this includes the evening meal. Reservations must be turned in by next Sunday. See the Pastor about this.

We will observe the Rite of Confirmation next Sunday in both churches.

Bible Study will be held on Wednesday April 11th at 7:30 PM at the Church of God. Rev. Marsolf will be the leader.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome as new members today, Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Anderson.

Anyone desiring to buy any of the wooden chairs, contact Paul Hefner or Russell Raub. The price is \$4.00 per chair.

The amount owed on the organ has been reduced to \$436.00.

Thus far this year there has been \$579.00 collected for OCWM on our pledge of \$2,000.00.

The Heidelberg Men's Class will meet on Tuesday April 10th at 7:30 PM.

The Women's Guild will meet Friday April 13th at 7:30 PM in the home of Pearl Lepperd.

There will be a special Tenebrae Service held on Maundy Thursday April 19th at 7:30 PM.

TRINITY CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mid-Week Lenten Service will be held at Trinity Methodist Church. Your Pastor will be the speaker.

1 thing did for him, never realized until dead, 2/
 They left him alone
 They permitted Js suffer pangs complete isolation
 & despair of facing it all alone.

We old worst thing anyone endure is loneliness.
 Mary aged do this in institutions
 off friends, family, relatives, no one care.
 Viet Nam prisoners stated, "Hardest thing endure."

This what Js endure in "A Garden", Gethsemane.
 Cannot minimize saying among friends,
 because he wasn't,
 He among indifferent, unfeeling, perhaps uncaring
 men,
 Men for whom he done much,
 Men who should cared for him, as he cared them
 But even desertion disciples, even dread unknown,
 came God for help.
 Did he find? Was prayer answered?
 According Hebrews 5:7, it was, we read,
 "In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers
 and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him
 who was able to save him from death, and he was heard
 for his Godly fear."

Prayer strange indefinable something, lacks descriptive
 We can talk, try explain,
 but unless person experienced its power in life,
 it still mystery.

In book, "Way Of A Pilgrim," by unknown author, is
 good illustration prayer.
 This book supposedly true acct man's life & lifelong
 search answers to life.
 Takes place Russia around 1860's
 Pilgrim in book never identified, writes as tho
 relating story to friend.

1st chap. goes church hears priest refer Paul state-
 ment I Thessa 5:17, to pray without ceasing.
 Gets him wondering about, begins inquire how do this.
 He unable find anyone answer question.
 begin journey other towns seek answer.
 No one answer until little town told monk
 monastery nearby knows

He goes old monk asks, monk tells, pray, Lord Js Chris
 have mercy on me.
 Js "this, no more, but 3000 times day
 hands place stay, begins pray prayer

"Tragedy To Triumph!" Act V. A Garden

at: Mark 14:34-36

"And he said to them, 'My soul is very sorrowful,
 & is to death; remain here and watch.' And going
 a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed,
 that if it were possible, the hour might pass from
 him. And he said, 'Abba Father, all things are
 possible to thee; remove this cup from me; yet not
 what I will, but what thou wilt.'"

Act 5 Lenten drama, confronted 1st time
 tenseness, urgency, not present before
 reason: moving final stages drama
 Js knows facing toughest test
 Worst ordeal of life

Realizes actions provoked authorities
 knows, they not stop at nothing to silence him
 Luke's account Gethsemane starts,
 "And he went as was his custom to Mt of Olives."
 Find this statement evidence support claim Js
 prayed often, sought God's help in life.

Only natural Him come garden pray, this greatest
 hour of trial.
 Luke also try impress reader, real urgency Js
 praying, by stating sweat fell like lge drops blood
 Indicates great anguish, distress,
 both mental, physical burden upon him.

ling stand out clearly in narrative, in greatest
 hour of need, favorite companions deserted him
 Each time go away pray, come back find asleep
 Each time expect share anxiety, apprehension,
 Each time disappointed finds sleeping

Thus see humanity these men,
 they not face ordeal, problem not theirs, so
 perhaps attitude, "well, let him look out self,
 just like we must do when have problem."

Perhaps felt he resolve problem like all others
 Maybe that back calming of sea,
 Maybe that miracles could whip up moments notice
 Thinking may do again if need arose

Whatever thinking, we know they at ease, permitted
 Js privacy he sought, they no disturb him.

Cannot expect God answer if we do not pray.
We must pray, pray, pray, pray ----
and then expect answers,
I re those us here know this to be fact.

He' n Steiner Rice, "Prayers Can't Be Answered
Unless They Are Prayed."

This Js did when he came to A Garden, & A Garden
was where he determined God's will to die.
we each have our own garden in which we must
determine what God wants from us.
Have you come to it in earnest fervent prayer?

4/

At 1st, difficult, finally able do it.

Goes back monk tells him ne did it.

Monk tells, go back & pray 6000 times day

He thinks impossible, but tries, & again able to
do it, he does whole week,

Go' back monk, monk again tells, pray 12,000 times
"Main in your solitude, get up early, go to bed
late, and come see me two weeks."

He does, finds after awhile he no need say prayer,
mouth, mind do automatically.

He find pray without ceasing, but in process, he
has found God.

All of prayers; all of mechanics served worth-
while cause.

"This what prayer should do, should put in touch
with God."

Mr. Eugene Carson Blake, Presby minister,

"If I say prayer help you to peace and power, to
wisdom and to vision, these very practical consid-
erations are beside the point. There is but one
reason sufficient in itself. Prayer is the way to
know God, to glorify him, to enjoy him forever,
and this it is we hold to be the chief end of man.
For life is not really life at all until it becomes
life in God."

Minister noticed little boy come church many times
in week.

Would sit in pew & bow head.

1 day he asked him about it.

Boy said, "I like to come here for prayer,

It makes me feel bigger than I am."

This what prayer should do, should make feel bigger
than we are, because our lives lived in God.

(Illustration Sweet Hour Of Prayer)

Here is how a blind man viewed prayer.

It is sweet hours of prayer, that bring about
miracles in peoples lives,

It is sweet hours prayer, that change lives,

It was sweet hours prayer that kept our Saviour
on his appointed course.

It will be sweet hours prayer that will change
our lives, our congregation, all of us.

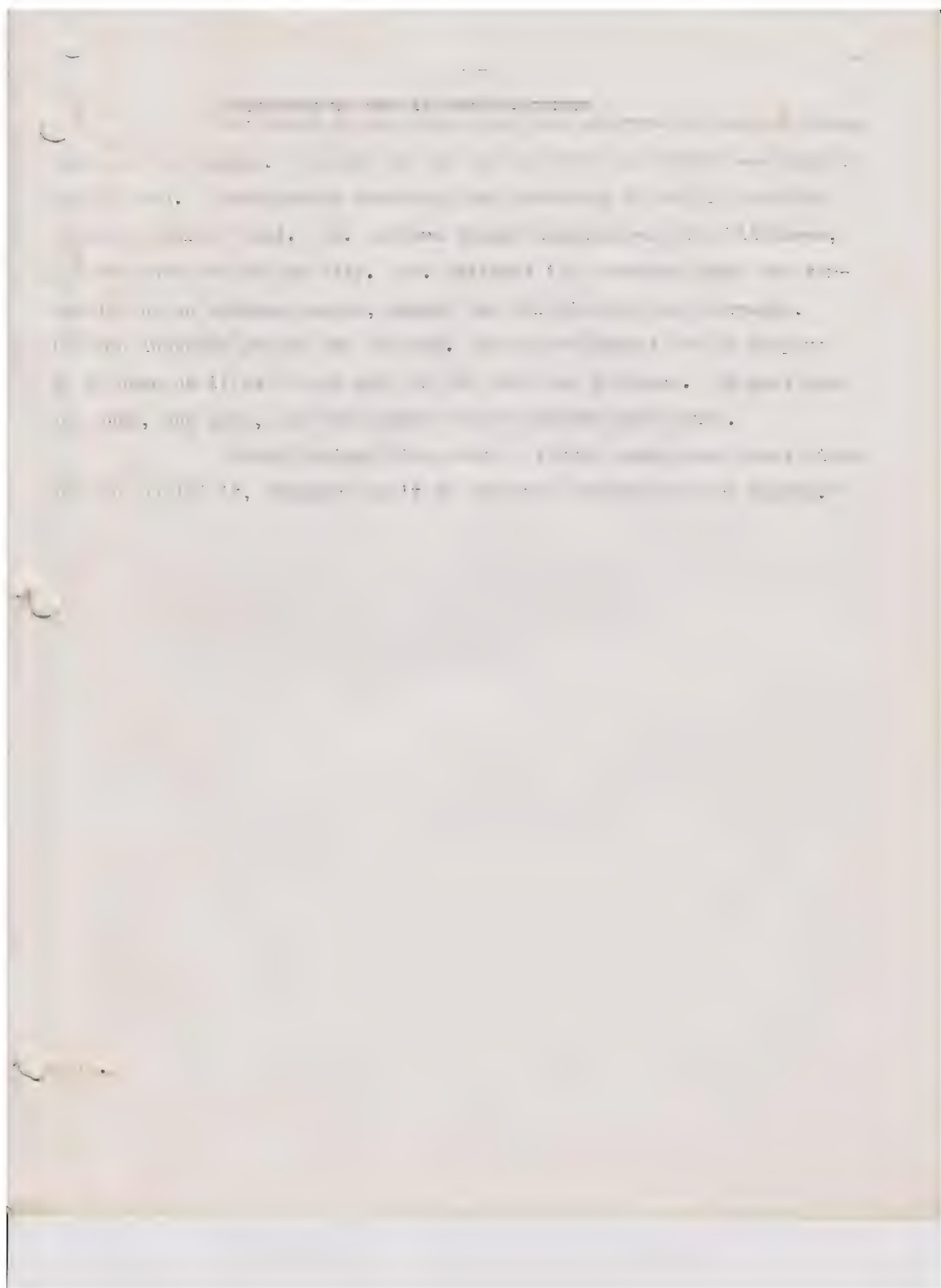
Each instance we talk about this morning, 1 thing
happened, each one attempt contact God.

He prayed fervently, earnestly,

pilgrim prayed prayer repeatedly,

Mr Walford, the blind, prayed often for help.

3/



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

WEDNESDAY EVE LENTEN SERVICE APRIL 3, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR

MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST

MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR

CHRIS CAMPBELL, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 7:00 P.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "INVOCATION" MARTIN
"CONSECRATION" RAND

SILENT MEDITATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 461 "SAVIOUR, LIKE A SHEPHERD
LEAD US"

*INVOCATION - CHORAL AMEN

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATTHEW 26: 36-46

*GLORIA PATRI

*EVENING PRAYERS AND CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "COMPLINE" O'DONNELL

HYMN No. 476 "COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"

SERMON: "HIS ACCEPTANCE"

SERMON PRAYER

*HYMN No. 470 "SAVIOUR, THY DYING LOVE"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "RECESSIONAL" SHEPPHERD

*CONGREGATION STANDING

THE COUNCIL WILL MEET FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED ON PALM SUNDAY.

RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS WILL BE FOLLOWING THE
MAUNDY EVENING HOLY COMMUNION - IN THE UNDERCROFT.

RICHARD ANDREWS 371

Matthew 26; 47

"YOUR WILL BE DONE" WAS WHAT JESUS SAID

The acceptance of what was to befall Him, is what separated Jesus from mere mortals. To our mind is the power of mind and given day of cases where someone who has been convicted of a crime, is appealing for a new trial. These people who have been caught in the perpetration of a crime, or caught as we actually say, red handed, plead not guilty to the charge. The power reaction to anything that threatens our life, our existence, or our most sacred way of living is to fight it with all the forces of our disposition. This is in direct contrast to the reaction of Jesus.

We are told in our Scripture that Jesus went to the garden called Gethsemane. There were no gardens of any size in Jerusalem, because it was a city built on a hill and every inch that could be used for building purposes was used. The wealthy citizens had their private gardens on the slopes of the Mount of Olives. The word Gethsemane means, an olive vat or an olive press. There isn't much doubt that this was indeed a garden with olive trees in it. To be able to go to a garden such as this would require that the owner would have to give permission to do so. Remember ~~that~~ this was a private garden and not for the use of the public. This would have meant that Jesus was a friend of the owner. It is freely in writing that the friends of Jesus are remembered in the Gospels. The only one who is remembered as an enemy, but there was the one who was Jesus' enemy, the Jewish High Priest, Caiaphas. There were also the men who looked Him the night before He was to die. They were the men who looked Him the night before He was to die. They were the men who looked Him the night before He was to die.

There are several things that we can see from the account of the garden in the garden by Jesus. He first showed the power of Jesus. He was very close to this time that His death was imminent. The burden of knowing this must have hung like a weight around His neck. No one wants to die in the presence of God. There is always the dilemma for Jesus would have been in a position to

[illegible]

IN MATTHEW & MARK

[illegible]

They see the heart of Jesus. The Gospel of Mark tells this story very much like Matthew, and well it should because Matthew uses Mark's Gospel as his reference book. But there is one little difference between Matthew and Mark and that is the word Abba, is placed at the beginning of Jesus's prayer. He prayed Abba Father. There is a small footnote to this word that

is common to most people. The word "Abba" was used by Jesus, William, as if
 referring them to their fathers. sort of like "Dad", only with a more living
 feeling about it. Jesus prayed to God as a child, in complete trust, "STONY BUT NOT
 WHAT I WANT, BUT WHAT YOU WANT" "What I want, but you will have it." This would mean complete trust and
 love in God for Him to do this. But is it He did and His trust and love enlarged
 with Him until His death on that cross.

The example that Jesus set for us is indeed a difficult one
 to follow. There are different ways in which the acceptance of that life being
 handled by different people. Some people very judiciously accept that life
 has to offer and learn from it. Others continue their way through life ac-
 cepting what comes to them grudgingly. The thing that determines how well we
 can accept the problems of life is how well we can accept disappointments?
 Suppose for instance we had planned a trip, somewhere and because of illness we
 had to call it off. Would we curse and swear and how about the fact that life
 has other things we were being pushed around at. There is a lot of philosophy
 whether we use for years and I have ~~often adopted it~~ ^{OR WOULD WE SAY THAT COULD BE CUMMERS} ~~it~~.
 This is the way of accepting disappointments with the consolation that what
 we wanted or desired was not to be. ^{IT WAS NOT} ~~that God did not want for us to have it~~
 in the first place. ~~XX~~
~~XX~~ ^{FOR ME & FAMILY}
^{IT WAS NOT} ~~XX~~
 fact ^{WE} to the extent that I generally find out later that ^{OUR} some of our desires
 would not be in the best interest ^{OUR} of our family. How we accept that
 life brings our way, very often is a determining factor of ^{OUR} that kind of ~~person~~
 we are. Here is where you people come into conflict with society as well as
 the law. Because of the fact that some of these people are living in conditions
 which are better than of others ^{THEY} they must rebel against it. We have seen this
 happen ^{IN OUR COUNTRY FOR PAST FEW YEARS} ~~in the past few years~~ that we will see it happen this
 summer. Now I am not saying that these people have no right to ex-
 press their disapproval of their plight, but I am saying that they have no
 right to destroy what belongs to other people simply because they cannot accept

that life has brought to them. We must have things in our lives that we could gladly change if we could. But because there are people in the world who can live a lot better than some other people, does not mean that we should all riot to get this for ourselves without working for it. Yet this is the philosophy of some people in our society today. There must be times that we must learn to accept things which we do not understand. We never know what opportunity to serve may be ours because of the way we accept the events that come to us. Any event may bring us agony, loneliness, or a source of inability to cope with life. But we can overcome all of these things just as Jesus did if we put our trust in our Father.

God does not afflict us with more than we can possibly bear. Although there may be times ^{WHEN WE} ~~there~~ are not so sure of this. It is human nature to doubt, to have misgivings, and to worry. But we can turn our doubts and worries into peace and comfort by trusting in God. Jesus gave us the example of complete trust in God. The trust that Jesus showed during His time of suffering was like that of a little child. But He showed His love for His Father by taking Him at His word and submitting to His will. Our love and our trust should parallel the love and trust of Jesus. If He was able to submit to the will of His Father, under the very extreme circumstances that He had to face, then there is no reason why we can't do likewise in the very mild circumstances we face. God loves us. We are each one of His children. As a Father, He should be able to come to His son and tell us His Father's prayer, and then be willing to do His will as He reveals it to us in our lives. As followers of Jesus, let us each try to follow His example and try to live our lives each day, striving to do the will of our Father. But we pray.

"His Acceptance!"

Text: Matthew 26:42b,

My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, thy will be done."

At the foot of the Mt. of Olives is an enclosed spot that is called Gethsemane. There are presently eight olive trees there, and it is believed that these remaining eight trees were there when Jesus came and prayed in this garden. We are told that beggars line the road around this place, but they only bother the visitors upon their return from the garden. The reason being, that the individual who has gone to the garden in which Jesus prayed, and has knelt ~~perhaps on the very spot on which Jesus knelt~~ perhaps on the very spot on which Jesus knelt, is moved very deeply and is more receptive to giving to those who seek help.

This place has become a shrine which ~~is~~ is a must to all visitors who strive to retrace the steps of Jesus. Thus beggars and merchants are prone to take advantage of a golden opportunity such as this.

We are also told that at the time of Jesus there were no gardens of any size in Jerusalem, because it was a city built on a hill, and every inch of building space was used to the best advantage. The wealthy citizens ^{private} had gardens on the slopes of the Mt. Of Olives. The word Gethsemane means, "Olive Vat", or "Olive Press." It was believed that in order to have access to a garden on the Mt. Of Olives, a person had to know the owner. Thus it is thought that Jesus was friends with yet another influential person who owned this garden. We have seen in this passion story of Jesus that there have been several instances in which ~~xx~~ unknown persons, and probably persons of wealth supported the ministry of Jesus from behind the scenes. Someone supplied the donkey on which Jesus rode into Jerusalem. Someone supplied the rosettes in which they ate the Last Supper.. Someone must have supplied the garden in which Jesus prayed. The only instance that ~~ix~~ records the silent supporters of Jesus, is the report that Joseph of Arimathea comes

forward to claim the body of Jesus after He is dead.

There are certain things we can see when we look at the acceptance of Jesus. We first see that He had a certain air of confidence in what he was doing. We can say this because in a few verses preceeding what we read as Scripture, we read, "And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mt. Of Olives." Now although the singing of this hymn was a part of the Passover Feast and involved the singing of Psalm 115 - 118, just this once Jesus could have requested that it be omitted if he were so troubled that he could not bear to ~~xxxxxx~~ sing before his arrest. But the very nature of the Psalms sung ^{speaks} ~~xxxxxx~~ of a strength that comes from outside of ourselves. Perhaps we have often thought of Jesus going to his cross as a man defeated and beaten. As a man filled with dread and forboding. But he went instead as a man singing - with a heart newly dedicated to God and a spirit filled with a strange joy. Listen to the words of this last Psalm of the hymn they sung, and see if it is not a song that would uplift the soul of any man. (Read Psalm 118).

Thus we see here a note of triumphant acceptance.

But even with this joy in the knowledge of the strength of God, Jesus had intermittant periods of anguish. We can only compare it with the feeble human comparison, of someone who is awaiting the start of an important event or moment in his or her life. Something like an acotr or actress awaiting the opening curtain. Or in sports, awaiting the opening kickoff, or the first pitch. All of these moments cause butterflies, and a certain sense of dread and forboding. I am sure that all of us at one time or another have been involved in similar circumstances and have questioned ourselves about it, asking the question, "What am I doing here? How did I ever let myself get talked into this?" But after the beginning takes place, we are able to fulfill our role whatever it may be. Thus it probably was with Jesus, only on a much more greater scale.

Here in this garden the real struggle actually began for Jesus. He knew that all of other events were mere preliminaries leading up to the main event. Now the main event was only moments away as he knelt here in prayer. Here is also where Satan could once again come forth to lead his thoughts and his determination away from doing the will of the Father. Thoughts such as his being too young to die, what purpose was really being served in this sacrifice, why did this have to happen and so on?

His prayer in the garden was, "My Father." By coming to God in this manner he came to him as ~~xxxxxx~~ any child would seeking guidance and help from a loving father. But through all of this is the lesson for each of us, and that is accepting what we cannot understand. There has been considerable argument down through the years as to whether Jesus really knew and understood all of the ramifications of the act which he was about to perform. Whether he did or not is really immaterial. What is more important is the fact that we have before us ~~xxxxxxxx~~ a lesson on complete acceptance of what life is setting forth, and a complete ~~xxxxx~~ reliance that God will see us through. This was what Jesus showed most strongly in His acceptance. His attitude ~~xxx~~ as determined by his actions was just about, "Well, I ~~xxxx~~ do not understand all that you are asking of me, but if this is what you want me to do, then I will do it. You have led me and directed me in the past, and I have been blessed by your help, so I'll continue to accept what you give to me, for I know it will turn out for the best."

Many times I talk to people about the problems and concerns of life, and often the question arises, "Why does this have to happen?" Or they will ask, "Why me," or, "Why my family?" All of these questions are legitimate and we do indeed seek for answers. But there are no hard and fast answers. We can only say as Jesus, "What you want me to do I will do, and what you want me to accept I will accept."

Which brings us to our third point and that is the answer of Jesus, "Thy will be done." In the perfect prayer that Jesus gave to his disciples and to us, are to be found the words, "Thy will be done." Here he uses it in his own personal prayer to God, thus showing us that this should always be our prayer. ~~Not~~ "Not what I want God, but what You want for me, ~~or~~ whatever it is you want me to do." This should be the example that we follow and pattern our prayers from.

To cry as Jesus, "Let this cup pass from me" is only a natural human cry, and there is nothing wrong with it. But always we must add to it, "Nevertheless, not what I want, but what you want for me." Jesus was able to do this simply because all of his life was lived in this manner. But you see we try to lean upon our own wills and our own ways. Our own will becomes so dear to us, that nothing else seems reasonable, or is so right for us. It is then that God takes a secondary role, and we have become self-sufficient.

But Jesus showed us what true sonship is, by his renunciation of self, and his acceptance of God's will for his life. And his acceptance of God's will for his death is just that much stronger a case for our following in his steps.

In the Gospel of John he said, "My meat is to do the will of him who sent me." Running through all of the life of Jesus and in particular his last week of his life, is the thread of placing his life in the hands of God and seeking to follow what God had ~~desired~~ willed for him to do.

Our love and our trust of the Father should parallel that of Jesus. Like a little child he accepted God at his word, and did His Father's will. Alfred Lord Tennyson once wrote in his poem "Memoriam," "Our wills are ours, to make them thine." This is how Jesus accepted his life, and his death. This is the acceptance that God also demands of us. Let us each strive to accept God at His word and to know that He will be with us as Jesus promised in the Gospel, "Lo I am with you always ~~to the~~ even unto the end of the world."

"Tragedy To Triumph!"
Act IV Dining Out

L e 22:27-30a

"For which is the greater, one who sits at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who sits at table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have continued with me in my trials; as my Father appointed a kingdom for me, so do I appoint for you that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom."

"When do we eat?" popular phrase around Link home familiar ring to many here prob.

Well known to disciples

feeding of 4000, & 5000 dis. not only concerned how crowd fed, but concerned personal hunger.

But act 4, not only meal but ^{for the sake of} ~~chance~~ fellowship

Perhaps dis looked enviously times could be alone Js pleasure to be guarded zealously

almost always surrounded by people seeking help can draw this conclus, we read several instances dis tried discourage peop sot Js aid

On this occasion preceed "east of Pass, came & asked,

"Where will we prepare this meal with you?"

surprisingly Js answers go Jerus,

look man carry water jug.

when spot, follow

1st sounds rather absurd, look man carry water jar.

actually rather unique,

those days pre-womens lib, women carry all water j

rare site see man carry jar

simple task then look man carry jar

Then say to householder, ^{the teacher says to you} "Where is the guest room

where I am to eat the Pass with my dis.?"

pre-arranged plan.

prob hidden friend Js

hidden because risk with authorities,

helped quiet, unobtrusively

such case man owned house

pre-arrangement - man send serv carry water given day

J disc look for him, prob cert spot,

they follow, ask master where eat,

password, "Teacher wants to know?"

The crowds that went before Him and that followed Him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed be He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

PALM SUNDAY April 7, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
CHRIS CAMPBELL, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "OPEN THE GATES OF THE TEMPLE" KNAPP
"ADORATION" BOROWSKI

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 176 "CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS"

*ACRISPION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "GRACIOUS GOD, FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOU HAVE PROMISED TO RECEIVE US WHEN WE COME TO YOU. WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED. WE HAVE DISOBEYED YOUR LAW. WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU OR OUR NEIGHBORS AS WE SHOULD. FORGIVE US, O GOD, AND GRANT THAT WE MAY LIVE AND SERVE YOU IN NEWNESS OF LIFE; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MARK 15: 16-39

HYMN No. 158 "WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "THE PALMS"

FAURE

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

ANTHEM: "JESUS OF NAZARETH: HOSANNA"

HANDLEN

SERMON: "ANOTHER HILL"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 161 "BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RIDE ON! RIDE ON IN MAJESTY" DYKE

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE PALMS HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE ALTAR IN MEMORY OF MR. & MRS. JOHN J. SWEENEY BY THE ALVIN TAIT FAMILY. YOU ARE WELCOME TO HAVE THEM AFTER THE SERVICE - THE USHERS WILL PASS THEM OUT.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALLEN BOTACCHI, JOHN REDMAN, DAN BOSKO, ROBERT KNAUER, CHARLES PENAR. DEACON AND MRS. RAYMOND COVERT WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: SHARON STAUFFER, LAUREL STAUFFER AND DEBBIE MCPRADE.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING PERSONS INTO OUR CHURCH FELLOWSHIP TODAY.

BY CONFIRMATION:	STEVE BASEMORE	GEORGE MARGURGER
	CHRIS CAMPBELL	DENNIS MASTER
	GORDON KENNEDY	BILLY SHEPPECK
	NORENE KERR	CHERYL SNYDER
	NANCY LINK	JEFF SNYDER
	BRIAN PFAD	BILLY WATTERSON

LETTER OF TRANSFER: PAUL HOLT

REV. RALPH C. LINK ROBERT K. SYBERT

MRS. SHIRLEY LINK MRS. KAREN VENSEL

DALE LINK MRS. EMOGENE YOAS

LLOYD LINK

PAUL W. PFAD

MRS. BETTY PFAD

LINDA PFAD

PROFESSION OF FAITH:

LARRY R. FALKNER

MRS. BRENDA MCKRUIT

DEBORAH MELTON

TONIGHT: 6:30 - YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE.

WED. - 7:30 - PREPARATORY SERVICE "HIS DEVOTION"

THURS. - 7:30 - HOLY COMMUNION (PEWS) "HIS DETERMINATION"

MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON WILL PLAY THE PIANO TODAY.

WE WISH TO THANK THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FOR THE CORSAGE AND BOUTONNIERS, ALSO FOR RENTAL OF GOWNS FOR CONF. C.

GOOD FRI. BREAKFAST FOR YOUTH 8-10 - LUTHERN HALL.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY - 235

to read text (read it)

1. Test 25V, 2 King James, The son of God.

This verse has original gr, The Son

Just this, if A Son of God, then Js not unique.

unique, out ordinary from the earth

men to myself."

perhaps now see why Lupton series chronological order.

More appropriate today, with these yg neone become

It accept Js Xp gave his life me a sinner

It mean speech different, life changed, now live new

If have been content sit comfortable news Sun after
Sun, neglected tell others our faith, believ'.

Get 6 another bill

In lit, play, movie, whatever medium used convey story, each episode builds on one preceding continues build til plot reaches hi point

It read as lit.
but if read Theologically, then has meaning purpose,
of life.

all fairly familiar how Jo arrived before Pilate heard many things local, illegal about trial.
Let us look at scene on yet ANOTHER HILL.

and how abused by soldiers, then taken out be crucified
men pressed into service, ones been carry
de unable carry, not cause work, but little sleep,
been beaten, no physical strength left.
not left working, this make execution easier

mark tall and be when crucify. this 2 in

It is no tell, but state dark from 6th 9th hr,
this moon to 3

in tells is released by pilot 5th hr,

this 7-9 tree came from
 none, ideally 0-3 on 6 h

More likely 9-3, or 6 hrs, cause crucif slow, pain

Dark feet need certain torn 2, top-bottom

Unveil this, our holy of holies
 a son of state veil except priest has it ungent

Spirit and dyall behind curt

God separated man by curt, no man knew what

but death its way opened had,

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

31

Or worse yet if have not come except since yr, we
guilty betray Js as surely Judas Iscariot.

Our task Xpian, live, give, share.

Means we live as Xpian, try be Xpian all things.

Means give what can, what able give.

Means give possess to God according how blessed,

Blessed much, give much, blessed little, give lit.

But if have much, give little, again turn back God &
subject damnation.

Be a Xpian means give of selves with talents to share
them with others.

Must share our love, our concern, our talents & above
all, must share Jesus Christ.

This asking too much?

Of course it isn't.

We each have much we can live, and give, and share.

(Illustration policeman in Indiana)

Here examp ordinary men involved bizarre circum,
yet he able serve Lord.

Can we common people do any less.

I have seen these ya peon accept Xp today.

Have seen these adults reprofess their faith,

Now up U & I to join with them in spreading Gospel
of Xp.

U & I should show them by our examp.

Are we up to task, or was merely another formality.

Would each do well adopt last verse closing hymn,

Miss Elizabeth Clephane wrote,

"I take C cross thy shadow, for my abiding place,
I seek no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross."

May we each re-examine our hearts, our lives, and our
conscience, & perhaps after doing so we will find we
need to re-profess & re-accept Jesus Christ in order
to set our lives aright.

If any unsure or uncertain where stand in relation to
Christ, be glad talk you about it.

1

—

...the crucifixion began, ...

...the crucifixion began, ...

...the crucifixion began, ...

...the crucifixion began, ...

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FOR INSTANCE
A ON THE DEFINITE ARTICLE
A

" is Devotion!"

Scripture: John 6:22-40
Text: John 6:38,39,

"I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me; and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up at the last day."

When think qualities Js that stand out, can't help think His Devotion word devotion used like many others, convey several things, & have implied in meaning more than one thing.

We speak devoted son or daughter usually meant, loving, obedient, trustworthy, concerned, cares deeply etc. Other words devotion contains many attributes rather than one.

Js son such as this showed devo earthly father, mother, with love, concern, obedience, trustworthiness etc.

showed devo to H. Father complete subj of life to what Father wanted to do.

Also tried show His Devo by pointing them to Father. Other words His Devo real thing - lived, but something tried instill by verbal message al:

leop came Js after feed 5M, Js tells bluntly only w ted see him, more food, vs 26 not interested him, but what can do

vs 27, tells sealed by God ancient times signet ring of King, ruler, gov. etc, archaeology & rings. soft clay, signet, hardened unbroken official.

vs 28 question?

vs 29 answer, believe in whom sent.

Ask for sign, peop sceptical, perhaps no more than today.

wanted tangible evidence, something concrete told of manna & how this evidence of God to forefathers.

Js tell He evidence, no further proof needed. He bread sent by God, & life sustained this bread

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

WEDNESDAY APRIL 10, 1974

THE REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS - ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER - CHOIR DIRECTOR
CHRIS CAMPBELL, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

PREPARATORY SERVICE 7:30 P.M.

PRELUDE: "Lenten Meditation" PEERY
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 219 "SAVIOUR, WHEN IN DUST TO THEE"
*INVOCATION, PAGES 14-20 IN HYMNAL
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS
*THE LITANY
SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOHN 6:22-40
*OFFERTORY "BEFORE THE CROSS" OVERHOLT
HYMN No. 214 "JUST AS I AM"
ORGAN MEDITATION
SERMON: "HIS DEVOTION"
EXHORTATION, PAGE 18
CONFESSION OF SIN
CONFESSIONAL QUESTIONS AND ASSURANCES
*HYMN OF DEDICATION 464 "DWELL IN ME, O BLESSED SPIRIT"
*BENEDICTION AND TRIPLE AMEN
*POSTLUDE "RECESSIONAL IN B FLAT" OTIS
*CONGREGATION STANDING
II SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (PEW) WILL BE CELEBRATED TOMORROW EVENING AT 7:30 P.M.
RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS WILL FOLLOW IN THE UNDERCROFT - THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED FOR A FELLOWSHIP HOUR.
A GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST FOR YOUTH WILL BE HELD FROM 8-10 AT LUTHER HALL ON MCKEAN STREET NEXT TO LIBRARY.

OUR SANCTUARY WILL BE OPEN FROM 7-9 P.M. ON GOOD FRIDAY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO DESIRE TO MEDITATE AND PRAY.

DR. H. S. S. ST. ANDREW'S

FOR THE VISITORS

FILM ALL ALL C.

vs 38 spells out plainly

2/

He telling he complete devo cause of Father
nothing can sway, deter from task
He willing place self hands of God
own will not considered any way, shape, form.

Here complete subjection will of Father
Difficult we understand this complete devo
never been another walk face earth devoted so
completely Js.

Can cite exams men, women devoted one special cause
but no one devoted completely, life surrendered
all faculties, all possess, all ambitions, all
desires, all everything serving cause as Js.

Think what take do this.
This require complete subjection all thots, all
ambitions, all desires, all very things life,
all wrapped up 1 cause.
Our minds cannot fathom this meaning

We come last Wed. Holy Week, prepare selves Lord's
Supper, tomorrow nite
We in sense prepare selves & lives, in new perspect
We strive say, "I sinner, sinned many sins past,
now try devo all thots, all life, all desires,
all ambitions, all of life to worthily prepare
partake Lord's Supper, of Body & Blood.

We looking our devo & comparing to His Devotion.
When make comparison cannot we see Ours & His
far, far apart?
Can we not feel as Jon the Bap, ~~xxx~~ we standing
in presence of one whose shoes unworthy to lace?

D : not give sense shame & guilt, that one loved
us so much before ever born, he willing die for us?

This was His Devotion,
A devotion never be ours
but a devo God asks us have in us whatever measure
can possibly have.

Let us ask God's guidance, blessing in our lives
toh have devo more ~~xxx~~ deeper, much stronger, than
it ever been.

Ask more on par with His Devotion, the Devo of
our Lord, Saviour Jesus Christ.

"His Devotion!"

Scripture: John 6:22-40

Text: John 6:38,39,

"For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me; and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up at the last day."

When we think of the qualities that stand out in the life of Jesus we cannot help but be reminded of "His Devotion." The word devotion is so often used like many other words, to convey several things, and to have implied in its meaning, more than one meaning.

For instance we speak of a devoted son or daughter. What is usually meant by this is a person who is loving, is trustworthy, who is concerned, who cares very deeply about the parent and so on. In other words the one word devotion, contains many other attributes, rather than just one.

Jesus was a Son such as this. He showed His Devotion to His earthly father and mother by his love, his concern, his trustworthiness and by all of the other things that this devotion entailed. But he also showed His Devotion to His Father by completely subjecting His life to what the Father had for Him to do. Along with this He tried to show His Devotion, ~~by~~ to others by pointing them to the Father. In other words His Devotion was not only a real thing He lived, but it was something that He tried to instill in others by His verbal message. Let us look at this in the portion of Scripture we read this evening.

The people came to Jesus after the feeding of the 5000 and Jesus tells them very bluntly they came not because they wanted to see Him, but because they had seen a miracle performed with food. In other words they would gladly hang around until it was time to eat, in order to be fed in a like manner. They were not interested in Him so much, as they were in what He could do for them.

He told them He was ~~xxxx~~ sealed by God. By this He meant that God had placed His stamp upon Him. In ancient times, Kings, Governors, rulers, anyone who was an official in a certain way, had signet rings. With these

rings they would place a seal upon a document. It was done in this manner, the ~~xxxxxx~~ document was usually in ~~xxxxxx~~ the form of a scroll, and it was rolled up. Soft clay was placed at the edges to keep it closed. The signet ring of the king or ruler, was impressed into the soft clay, and thereby the seal of that official was placed for the receiver to see. This scroll then was set aside ~~xxxxxx~~ for the clay to harden, and when it was delivered, everyone could determine whether or not it had been tampered with. If the seal was unbroken, it was an ~~xxx~~ considered an official document.

In a class on Archaeology at Seminary, we went to the Museum in Philadelphia, and saw there the pottery, tools, utensils and things found at different biblical excavation sites. One thing that I found very interesting, was the signet rings from the different kings and rulers of those ancient times. I held in my hand a small clay tablet that was written by the Sumerians over 4000 years ago, and was formed in much this manner.

Then the people asked Jesus what they needed to do to be doing the will of God? vs28.

Jesus answered, vs 29, Believe in him whom he has sent. In other words, they are to begin showing a devotion to God.

They then do as so many before had done, they ask for a sign from Him so they may believe. In ancient times the people were very sceptical. Perhaps no more sceptical than many people today, but always they wanted proof that they might have something concrete, something tangible that they could see with their own eyes and believe it. That told Jesus of the manna that their forefathers ate in the wilderness, and how this was a visible proof of the guidance of God.

But Jesus tells them that they need no further sign than He Himself. That He is the new bread that God has sent from heaven, and they can have life and be sustained from this bread for all eternity.

And here in verse 38 He spells it out as plainly as He ever explained anything else in scripture. He says, "For I have come down from heaven

not to do my ~~will~~ own will, but the will of Him who sent me."

He is telling them that he was completely devoted to the cause of His Father and that nothing was going to sway Him or deter him from this task. He was saying that He was willing to place His life completely in the hands of God, and that His own will was not to be considered in way, shape, or form.

Now here we see the complete subjection of his will to that of His Father. It is difficult to understand this complete devotion. I think I can say that there has never been another person who walked on the face of this earth who was completely devoted to a cause more than Jesus. I am sure we can cite examples of men and women who have been dedicated to a certain goal, or a certain aim, and have sought after that goal or aim with complete devotion to that task. But never, has there lived a man or woman who has completely surrendered all of life to a total devotion of all ~~faculties~~ faculties, all possessions, all ambitions, all desires, all of everything to serving the cause, such as Jesus did.

Just think of what this would take to do this! It would require the complete subjection of all thoughts, all desires, all of the very things that ~~make~~ go into life, all of them wrapped up in one basic cause. Our minds cannot completely fathom what this would mean.

We have come here tonight in this last Wednesday during Holy week, to prepare ourselves to partake of the Lord's Supper tomorrow night. We are in a sense looking at our lives from a new perspective. We are striving to say in effect, "God, I am a sinner, I have sinned many sins in the past, and I am now trying to devote all my thoughts and all of my life, to prepare it to worthily partake of the Supper of the Lord's Body and Blood."

We are looking at our devotion and we are making the comparison between it and His Devotion. But when we make this comparison, can we not see that Our Devotion and His Devotion are far, far apart? Can we not

understand that like John the Baptist we are standing in the presence of one whose very shoes we are unworthy to lace? Does it not give us a sense of shame and guilt that there was one who loved us so much, even before we were ever born that He was willing to die for us? This was His Devotion. A devotion that can never be ours. But a devotion that God asks us to have in us in whatever measure we possibly can have.

Let us ask God's guidance and blessing in our lives to have ~~this~~ a devotion which is much stronger, much deeper ~~than~~ than it has ever been, and a devotion that is more on a par with His Devotion, the devotion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Let us pray.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 11, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
CHRIS CAMPBELL, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

HOLY COMMUNION - 7:30 P.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "ANDANTE E. MAESTRO" TSCHAIKOWSKI
"CALVARY" RICHOLSON

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 336 "LET ALL MORTAL FLESH
KEEP SILENCE"

*INVOCATION AND PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOHN 6:41-59

*GLORIA PATRI

*EVENING PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE
OFFERING

OFFERTORY "THE SUFFERING SAVIOR" "WILSON
ANTHEM: "O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED" HASSLER

CHANCEL CHOIR AND MARILYN STEPHENSON ON FLUTE

SERMON: "HIS DETERMINATION"

COMMUNION HYMN No. 341 "HERE, O MY LORD"

*COMMUNION SERVICE - PAGE 32

EXHORTATION - CONFESSION - ABSOLUTION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

SERAPHIC HYMN

THE INSTITUTION - CHORAL AMEN

AGNUS DEI

HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE RETAIN ELEMENTS AND COMMUNE
WITH PASTOR)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - DOXOLOGY

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 343 "A PARTING HYMN WE SING"

*BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RECESSIONAL" VAN WOERT

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

OUR SANCTUARY WILL BE OPEN FROM 7-9 P.M.
TOMORROW EVENING, GOOD FRIDAY, FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE
TO ENTER, MEDITATE, OR PRAY. THERE WILL BE NO FORMAL
SERVICE.

WE INVITE ALL CHRISTIANS, REGARDLESS OF DENOMIN-
ATION TO PARTAKE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER WITH US.

PLEASE FILL OUT A COMMUNION CARD SO THAT OUR
CHURCH'S RECORD WILL BE ACCURATE. IF VISITORS DESIRE
TO RECEIVE CREDIT AT THEIR HOME CHURCH, PUT THE NAME
AND ADDRESS OF EITHER YOUR PASTOR OR YOUR CHURCH ON
THE BACK OF THE CARD AND IT WILL BE FORWARDED.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE CELEBRATED
THIS COMING EASTER SUNDAY, AT 8:00 A.M. (ALTAR) AND
AT 11:00 A.M. (PEW).

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THE RECEPTION FOR
NEW MEMBERS - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE THIS
EVENING IN THE UNDERCROFT. THE CONGREGATION AND
FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS FELLOWSHIP HOUR.

THE ELDERS AND DEACONS WILL ALSO SERVE AS USHERS.

TOMORROW - GOOD FRIDAY - A BREAKFAST FOR THE
YOUTH - WILL BE FROM 8-10 AT LUTHER HALL, NEXT TO
THE LIBRARY ON MCKEAN ST.

To say we must feed on xp, is ~~not~~ not say we must eat his body & drink his blood means instead, we absorb his teach. take life inside selves **READ BACK OF TONITE BULLETIN**

Mr. Barclay compares to book on shelf

As long as no read it remain outside, when read it become part us, in our minds, our hearts, & no longer outside us.

When Js say, abide in me, & I will abide in you, or eat my flesh and my blood, he saying, feed minds, hearts, souls on me

He telling live lives his words, live, relive his words, actions, deeds until we become drenched, permeated, saturated, filled with him, & life of God

Thus we see from His determin, to not only live as God wants us to live, but we should be completely filled & full of spirit that comes from God.

He saying, if we were to have same determin our lives we could live for God just as He.

Thus we should come Lord's table with strong determin to partake figuratively, metaphorically of body, blood of xp. & have it indwell us, renew us to go forth stronger, more determined disciples of J C

It table we come to, not habit, or remain member good standing,

it table come as sinners need of forgiveness, of sin & renewal of minds in ingestion of bread & wine

to find new strength flowing thru bodies, because we've been in closest contact, Lord & Saviour J C

That we have found Him once again at His table, & we have eaten & drunk in His house.

Thus when hear words of Js, (Text),

we hearing His Determination to share self with us let us show our determination to be numbered among His peop, & to eat His table in new & renewed way tonite.

"His Determination!"

Scrp. sure: John 6:41-59

Text: John 6:51,

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Determination of Js very plainly evidenced portion scrip. read tonite

He expanding upon portion scrip read last nite

Jn points out some Jews in opposition in this crowd they want question Js & statements

1st question He come down from heaven

They argue, "After all, did we not know your father Jos. and your mother Mary? How can u say u come down heaven?"

Js gives statement no comprehend,

we say throw curve to them

He says, (Text)

again they question meaning & purpose

This questioning & arguing not ceased that day to this.

If we read verse as other churches have we can readily see, verse leads to great controversy

And it has done just that

It from verse that belief in transubstantiation has sprung.

Roman Cath. & Luther belief

What means, during consecration of elements, bread actually turns into body of Christ, wine into blood

Ulrich Zwingli disagreed with Luther this point, & broke off to form Reformed church

From vs & secretness of early xpians that pagans believed xpians indulged cannibalism, thus persecute

What Js really saying, spoken metamorphically & not literally

He saying, this secret real discipleship, xpian faith & living

When He say, I vine, he no mean He climbing tree.

We understand he making comparison, metaphor & we accept as such

"His Determination!"

Scripture: John 6:41-59

Text: John 6:51,

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The determination of Jesus is very plainly evidenced in the portion of scripture that we read this evening. What Jesus is really doing is simply expanding upon what he said in the portion of scripture that we read last night. John points out that there are some Jews in opposition in this crowd and they want to question Jesus on his statements.

First they question the validity of his statement that he has come down from heaven. They argue that after all, "did we not know your father Joseph and your mother Mary? How can you say that you have come down from heaven?"

But then Jesus gives them a statement ~~that~~ they cannot comprehend. We would say that he threw them a curve. He says, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh." And again they question His meaning and purpose. But this questioning and arguing never has stopped from that day to this. If we read this verse as many others in the church have done we can readily see that this verse could lead to a great controversy. And it has done just that. It is from this verse that the Roman Catholic Church, and the Lutheran Church as founded by Martin Luther, holds the belief that during the ^{consecration} ~~institution~~ of the elements, at some unknown point, the bread and the wine miraculously turn into the real flesh and blood of Christ. Ulrich Zwingli one of the founders of the Reformed church disagreed with Luther on this one point and therefore founded the Reformed church apart from the Lutheran Church.

It was from this verse and from the sedretness of the warly Christian

Church worship service that the pagans believed the Christians indulged in cannibalism, and were thus persecuted.

But what Jesus was saying, was really being spoken metamorphically and not literally. He was really saying that here was the real meaning of ~~the~~ discipleship, and the secret of Christian faith and living. When He said he was the vine, we do not think that he literally is a vine growing up the side of a tree ^{OR A PLANT.} We understand that he was speaking metaphorically, and when he uses one metaphor and we accept it as such, we should accept all metaphors in the same way. To say that we must feed on Christ is ~~not~~ not to mean that we must actually eat his body or drink his blood, but it means to absorb his teachings, to take his life inside ~~ours~~ ours.

William Barclay compares it to a volume sitting on a shelf. Perhaps that volume may be a book by William Shakespeare. As long as the book sits on the shelf unread, it remains outside of us and is therefore external. But when the volume is taken from the shelf and read, and digested so to speak, it becomes a part of us, it is in our minds and on our hearts and is no longer outside of us. When Jesus told us to abide in Him and he would abide in us, or to eat his flesh and drink his blood, he was saying to feed our hearts and our souls and our minds on him. He was telling us to live our lives in his words, and to live and relive his deeds in everything that we do until we become drenched and permeated and ~~then~~ saturated and filled with Him, and the life of God.

Thus we can see from this His Determination to not only live just exactly as His Father wanted Him to live, but to have us completely filled and full of that same spirit that comes from God. He was saying that if ~~WE~~ ^{WE} were to have this same determination in our lives, we could live for God just as He.

Thus we ^{should} come to the Lord's table with a strong determination to partake figuratively and metaphorically of the body and blood of Christ,

Thus when we hear the words of Jesus, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh," we are hearing His Determination to share Himself with us, ~~and to share Himself~~
~~with us~~ Let us show our determination to be numbered among His people and to eat at His table in a new and renewed way tonight. Let us pray.

Order of Worship

(Please enter and leave the service only during the ushering intervals or while the congregation is singing the hymns.)

THE WORDS FROM THE CROSS

ORGAN PRELUDE Mr. Daryl C. Kemmerer

12:00—THE CALL TO WORSHIP

CHORAL INTROIT The Rev. Stuart H. Perrin

CALL TO WORSHIP The Rev. Stuart H. Perrin

INVOCATION Pastor, Saint Andrew's United Presbyterian Church

*HYMN—"Tis Midnight, and on Olive's Brow"

1. 'Tis midnight, and on Olive's brow the star is dimmed that lately shone.
2. 'Tis midnight in the garden now, the suffering Saviour prays alone.
3. 'Tis midnight, and from all removed, the Saviour wrestles long with fears.
4. 'Tis midnight, and from heavenly plains is borne the song that angels know.

Unheard by mortals are the strains that sweetly soothe the Saviour's woes. Amen

12:05—THE WORD OF INTERCESSION

"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 23:32-38

SOLO "He Shall Feed His Flock" Handel

THE MEDITATION The Rev. C. Kenneth Hall

Pastor, The Hill United Presbyterian Church

PRAYER

*HYMN—"Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed"

1. Alas, and did my Saviour bleed, and did my Sovereign die?
2. Would He devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?
3. Was it for sins that I have done, He suffered on the tree?
4. Amazing pity, grace unknown! And love beyond degree!
5. Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut his glories in,
6. When God the mighty Maker, died for man the creature's sin.
7. Thus might I hide my blushing face, while His dear cross appears,
8. Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt mine eyes in tears.
9. But drops of grief can never repay the debt of love I owe.
10. Here, Lord, I give myself away, till all that I can do.

12:30—THE WORD OF SALVATION

"Today shall thou be with me in Paradise."

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 23:39-43

DUET "Drop, Drop, Slow Tears" Graham

Mrs. Penelope Kemmerer and Mrs. Jean McClaren

THE MEDITATION The Rev. Warren A. Bugbee

Pastor, First United Methodist Church

PRAYER

*HYMN—"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

1. O love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
2. I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.
3. O light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to Thee;
4. My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in Thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.
5. O cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee;
6. I in dust life's glory dead, from the ground these blossoms red life that shall endless be. Amen.

12:55—THE WORD OF REMEMBRANCE

"Woman, behold thy son! Behold thy mother!"

SCRIPTURE READING John 19:25-27

SOLO "Forgive Us" DuFault

Mrs. Ruth Ann Quinlan

THE MEDITATION The Rev. Francis A. Glenn

Pastor, St. Paul's Catholic Church

PRAYER

*HYMN—"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand—
2. The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land.
3. A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
4. From the bustling of the multitude beat and the burden of the day.
5. Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye a: times can see
6. The very dying form of One who suffered there for me.
7. And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess—
8. The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.
9. I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding shade;
10. I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face.
11. Content to lay the world to by to know no grief nor loss.
12. My sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross. Amen

1:20—THE WORD OF LONELINESS

"My God, My God! Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me?"

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 15:33-34

SOLO "He Touched Me" Gaither

Mr. Paul Reed

THE MEDITATION The Rev. Reinhold K. Weber

Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church

PRAYER

*HYMN—"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time.
2. All the light of sacred story gathers round its base sublime.
3. When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
4. Never shall the cross forsake me, for it shows with peace and joy.
5. When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
6. From the cross the radiance streams, adds more lustre to the day.
7. None and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;
8. Peace is there that knows no measure, love that through all time abides. Amen

1:45—THE WORD OF SUFFERING

"I thirst"

SCRIPTURE READING John 19:28-29

SOLO "He Never Said A Mumbalin' Word" Traditional

Mrs. Richard May

THE MEDITATION The Rev. Calvin W. Ross

Pastor, Oak Hills Christian Church

PRAYER

*HYMN—"Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound"

1. Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—that saved a wretch like me!
2. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
3. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
4. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
5. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
6. 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
7. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.
8. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. Amen.

In this light then, it unlikely Js reiterating what said previous occasion. 2/

More likely cry it finished, cry victory, triumph that it signified end suffering part his life offering part being reality role in life Js and live

Dr. Herbert Simpson, preaching Westminster church London said this word, "It has been called with perfect justice, the most momentous word the world has ever heard."

an if we analyse word this way, we indeed see was not statement mere completion of task, but instead word of victory.

A shout of triumph for what taken place Announcement to world that "IT" finished

"IT" being this instance, Divine plan Almighty God re-own mankind.

This plan was started garden Eden after man fallen from God trying be like God do ~~own~~ thing.

From that moment on, God set in motion plan save his peop from sins

Js once said, "My ment is to do the will of Him that sent me, and to finish His work."

This was what he was about now.

God's plan was operable in lives patriarchs, Abe, Isaac, Jacob,

In motion in Moses, Joseph, Judges, the kings, in action in the major, minor prophets.

All down history Israel God's covenant est. re-est for redemption of his peop.

As Js hung suspend heaven earth, he very readily view whole scene passing before tortured eyes, much like drowning man view life passing by.

and as gaze stretched back several yrs,

he view all this as some ~~xxx~~ silent Jim saw puzz, forming, shaping, day by day, yr by yr, cent by ce

All this piece by precious piece, put place by hand Al. God, His Father

All of it for child. whom he loved, sought all these yrs.

All this been finished, Js aware purpose of God, been worked out his life.

Js had any misgivings, doubts about role he to play, was not at this point of execution all came into full focus.

"One Word Of Victory"

"It is Finished"

April 18, 1974

Text: John 19:30,

"When Jesus therefore, had received the vinegar, He said, 'It is finished;' and He bowed His head, and gave up the spirit."

Read the text above,

What was finished?

What did He mean?

There are several things to consider about 6th word in order understand what being said by Js

If look at life of any indiv, no matter who, we know life made up many things

2 Inured any life, work, suffering

each person ~~xxxx~~ has certain work thru life very perform this work entails certain amt suffer achieve it

Js no diff this respect

we know he workern spoke this often, He said,

"The works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works ~~xxxx~~ that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me," and, "I must work the works of Him who sent me," and also, "The works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me."

Now from these notes of Js, evident he had work was about it.

So if he speak from standpoint of work he tried do in life, been 6th word simply imply his work ended.

When he say It is finished, he saying everything for which he labored had been accomplished

These words could also implied terrible ordeal he undergone last few hours, also at end.

Could been triumphant about he able leave behind executioners, tormentors, a humiliation he endured could well be saying, "All you entrusted me been fulfilled. I completed work you sent me do."

But in 17th chap same Gospel John Js says, "I have glorified thee on earth; I have finished the work thou gavest me to do."

Js surely must have known that in very short time 3/
when gave spirit back hands Father,
all prophecies of him,
which preceeded him by so many yrs,
all things he prophecied about take place.

Things such as; "I, if I be lifted up will draw all
men unto me."

or, "God so loved the world that He gave
His only begotten Son, that whoso-
ever believeth in Him, should not
perish but have everlasting life.
For God sent His Son into the
world, not to condemn the world,
but that the world through Him
might be saved."

When Js said, "It is Finished," he saying salvation
been perfected.

The sins all mankind bought & paid for body, blood
Js Christ.

way now cleared for individ come Father thru Son
No need offer sacrifice animals
supreme sacrif been made

It is finished was CRY of JOM,
Yes, JOY TO WORLD, LORD HAS COME!

Defeat been turned into VICTORY.

EVEN man's best effort at execu could not thwart
God's plan of Salvation from being fulfilled.

"IT IS FINISHED," was cry of Jesus,

IT WAS FINISHED INDEED,

And thanks be to God who giveth us the victory
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

"The Word Of Victory"

"It Is Finished!"

April 12, 1974

Text: John 19:30, "When Jesus therefore, had received the vinegar, he said, 'It is finished;' and he bowed his head, and gave up the spirit."

"When Jesus therefore, had received the vinegar, he said, 'It is finished;' and he bowed his head and gave up the spirit." What was finished? What did he really mean? There are several things that we need to consider about this sixth word in order to understand what was being said by Jesus. If we look at the life of any individual, no matter who it may be, we know that life is made up of many things. But two ingredients in any life are work and suffering. Each person has a certain work they perform through life, and the very performance of that work entails a certain amount of suffering to achieve it. Jesus was no different in this respect.

We know of him as a worker for He spoke of this often. He said, "The works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me." And, "I must work the works of Him who sent me," and again, "The works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me." Now from these quotations of Jesus it is evident that He had a work and was about it.

So if He was speaking from the standpoint of the work that He tried to do in His life, then this sixth word would simply imply that His work was ended. When he said it is finished, he was saying that every thing for which he had labored had been accomplished. ~~xxxxxx~~ These words could also have implied that the terrible ordeal he had undergone in these last hours was also at an end. It could have been a triumphant shout that he was able to leave behind him, his executioners, his tormentors, and the humiliation he had endured. He could in essence have been saying, "All that you have entrusted to me has been fulfilled. I have completed the work you sent me to do." But in the 17th chapter of this same Gospel of

John, Jesus said, "I have glorified thee on earth; I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do." So in this light then, it is unlikely that Jesus was merely reiterating what he had said on a previous occasion.

It is more likely that the cry of "It is Finished," was a cry of triumph and of victory. That it signified the end of the suffering part of His life. ~~It said previously that Jesus had finished his work and suffering part~~
~~of his life.~~ The suffering part being in reality the role in life that Jesus had to live. Dr. Herbert Simpson preaching in Westminster Church in London on this word said, "It has been called with perfect justice, the most momentous word the world has ever heard." And if we analyse the word in this way we can indeed see that it was not a statement of the mere completion of a task, but instead the word of victory. A shout of triumph for what had taken place. An announcement to the world that "IT" was finished.

"IT," being in this instance the Divine plan of Almighty God to redeem mankind. This plan that was started in the garden of eden after man had fallen from God in trying to be like God and do his own thing. From that moment on, God had set into motion a plan to save His people from their sins. Jesus once said, "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me, and to finish his work." This was what he was now about.

This plan was operable in the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It was still in motion in the ~~prophets~~ judges and the kings. In the major and the minor prophets. All down through the history of Israel God's covenant was established and reestablished for the redemption of His people.

As Jesus hung suspended between heaven and earth, he could very readily view this whole scene passing before his tortured eyes, much like ~~as if we were~~ we are told a drowning person sees their life pass in review. And as his gaze stretched back over several thousand years, he could view all of this as some giant jig saw puzzle

forming and shaping, day by day, year by year, century by century. All this piece by precious piece put into place by the hand of Almighty God, His Father. All of it for the children ~~Maxayed~~ whom He loved and sought all of these years. All of this had been finished, and Jesus was aware that God's purpose had been worked out in His life.

If He had any misgivings or doubts about the role He was to play, it was probably at this point in His execution that all of it came into full focus. He surely must have known that in a very short time, when he gave his spirit back into the hands of the Father, that all of the prophecies which preceeded Him by so many years, and all of the things the He Himself had prophecied were about to take place.

Things such as, "I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto me," Or, God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoe er believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God at His Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved."

~~It is finished, Joy, Yes, Joy, the world, the Lord~~
Salvation has now been perfected, the sins of all mankind have been bought with the body and blood of the perfect sacrifice, Jesus Christ. ~~Even through this marked the~~ The way was now cleared for the individual to come to the Father through the Son. No more did he need to offer the sacrifices of animals, the supreme sacrifice had been made. It is finished was a ~~CRY~~ of joy. Yes, Joy to the world, the Lord has come. ~~Thanks be to God who~~
~~giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ~~ Defeat had been turned into victory. ~~Even man's best efforts at execution could not thwart God's purpose from being fulfilled.~~ Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

THE REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS - ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER - CHOIR DIRECTOR
CHRIS CAMPRELL, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

PRELUDE MUSIC: "THE RESURRECTION" JOHNSTON
"CHRIST AROSE" WILSON

*PRAISE

*PASTOR - LET US PRAY

THE HOLY COMMUNION -- (8:00 SERVICE -- USHERS WILL ESCORT
YOU TO THE ALTAR

WE WELCOME ALL THOSE WHO VISIT WITH US TODAY IN THE
NAME OF THE RISEN LORD. WE HOPE YOU WILL SIGN OUR
GUEST REGISTER ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE NAVE.

SUNRISE SERVICE - EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 7, 1994 - 7:00 A.M.
COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH - SAGAMORE, PA.

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

AKFAST AFTER SERVIE THIS MORNING, NO CHARGE - FREE-WILL
OFFERING IF CARE TO CONTRIBUTE
CHURCH SERVICE AT 9:30 FOLLOWING BREAKFAST
THE LORD'S SUPPER AT 9:30 SERVICE

ASCRPTION

CALL TO WORSHIP:

NOW IS CHRIST RISEN FROM THE DEAD, AND BECOME THE FIRST
FRUITS OF THEM THAT SLEPT.
THANKS BE TO GOD, WHO GIVETH US THE VICTORY
THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

*HYMN

OFFERING/PRAYER

*DOXOLOGY

MORNING PRAYER

HYMN

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 28:1-10

SERMON: "HAPPY NEW YEAR" - ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER 4/14/74

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

SCRIP: MT 28:1-10; SRM: "HAPPY NEW YEAR"

(ILWS CM OF HOLY SEPULCHRE, JERU & EASTER EVE & AWAIT EASTER DAWN)
SIMLAR 2CWSTCM OF AWAIT NEW YRS DAY

THIS 1ST DAY NW BEGINS & LET ME B 1ST WISH W-HAPPY NEW YEAR
TH'S DAY LONG AWAIT IN HISTRY & SPECILY IN LIF JS XP

& CULMINATIN OF BLVD/SACRIF/TEAR OUP SAVIOR JS XP
HE' INGRFIELD CAPTIV IN TOMB-HE ALIV-HE IS RISEN

(ILWS MOSEEM & XPIAN MISSINARY ABOUT TOMBS)

VS 1-THINK IMPACT UPON TH/LIYS THEE WCMN

HAY W EYR WATCHED THEE TH/ERLY MORN HRS & AWAIT ARIVL OF DAWN??!

(ILWS STAND GARD KOREA -TH/LAND OF TH/MORNING CALM)

THEE WCMN LITRLY/FIGURATIVLY SAW DAWN OF NW DAY

VSS 2-4-THINK IMPACT ON THEM,TH/SHOCK,AMAZMENT

ANY FEARS THEY HAD WER QUICKLY PUT PREST BY ANGLS WORDS

VSS 5-7-THINK OF THIS TERRIFIC NEWS THEY WER HEARING

NOW WUD TP AFECT W?? JOY, UNSPEABL JOY

VS 8-1 LIX NOW MT SAYS IT-"DEPARTED QUICKLY"

HE SAYS IT CORRECTLY AT END OF VERS-AND DID RUN"

BUT WHAT HAPPN AS SO 2TEL DISCIPS???

VS 9-TH/DAY NOW DAWNED THAT MUCH BRITH 4THEM

THEY CAM 2TOMB W/SADNES/DESPAIR & NOW GLWN TURN 2JOY

(ILWS MINISTAR WHO "LITES UP TH/BURIAL SERVIC")

THIS IS WAT EASTER STORY SHUD DO 4EACH OF US

IT IS A DAY OF JOY OF NW BIRTH,OF HAY TREASUR WORL WANTDPLICAT

(ILWS OLD SOFA & TH/UNKNOWN VALUE OF IT)

THIS WAS JS

AN OLD/WORTHLES JEWISH TEACHN BIN DISPOD OF

HE WAS PUT 2DETH,BURIED & OUT OF HARM'S WAY

TH/RELIG LDERS & OTHERS WANT HIM OUT OF WAY BREATH SIGH RELIEF

THIS BLASMEMR WAS SON,& DISCIPS/FOLLOWERS HAD DISAPEARD

TALK OF NW ONDR,BILD TEMPL 3DAYS ETC WAS JVC TALK,TALK,TALK

LDN DED,& HIS TALK JVS BUNCH DREAMS/MEMRIES IN TH/PAST

IT FVL SIGNIF OF ALL THIS IS THAT JS RESUR MENT POSSBL THAT

WER IS A RECONRECTIN & LIF BYON THIS ONE

4ALL BLIEVRS THIS SHUD SORC JOY & THANKSGIV

IT SHUD PT US 2WAT AWAIT US AT CLOS THIS LIF

(ILWS MISSIONARY,FAMILT IN PORTUGAL & "ALL SAFELY HOME")

WAT A CAWS 4CELEBRATIN

JS MADE POSIB 2CNGS FR/DARKNES 2DAWN

FR/DETH 2LIF, FR/OLD 2NEW

SO SHUD "HAPPY NEW YEAR" THIS EASTER & EVRY EASTER

JS XP IS RISEN 2DAY, ALLELUIS & AMEN!!!

Handwritten: H. V. M. - 14.11.15 3/2/15

FESTIVAL OF HOLY FIRE

DRAWING OF NEW DAY LITERATURE & FLY-ANTHROPY

PR 121
Sermon #2
December 11, 1973
Ralph C. Link

"Happy New Year!"

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10

Text: Matthew 28:1a, "Now after the sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week," R.S.V.

Today is Easter Sunday. Yesterday, all day, and all night people were gathering in the church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. They have been doing this for over nine centuries. These people have been taking part in what is called the "Ceremony of the Holy Fire." H. V. Morton tells of this in his book entitled "In His Steps." Hundreds of people sleep in the church. Thousands more wait outside all night for the supreme moment of the morning to come when the fire shall appear. They push and shove for places that will place them in a position to get their candles touched by the holy fire. The police are called in to preserve order, but to little or no avail.

On each side of the tomb are round openings rimmed with stone, blackened by the fire of other years. Runners stand around holding bunches of candles. The Greek and Armenian patriarchs take their places at the openings, each with a torch. Suddenly in the darkness a burst of flame appears and the torches are ablaze. There is a mad rush of shrieking candle holders as they push forward to light their candles. All pandemonium breaks loose. Out of the tomb they rush with the lit candles, and into their vehicles to drive to their churches and to place the candles in those churches. The church bells peal out their joyous notes on the early morning dawn air, while added to this is the strange noise of wooden gongs that are beaten with strips of metal.

This resembles very much our custom of watching and awaiting the

the arrival of the New Year. Each December 31st thousands of people sit in front of their TV sets viewing Guy Lombardo and his orchestra playing dance music, while people dance and await the New Year. Quite frequently, the scene changes and shows the time remaining until midnight. At a few minutes to midnight the scene in Times Square New York City is shown and at exactly midnight the ball drops to the bottom of the tower and all pandemonium breaks loose with people shouting, and whistling, screaming, embracing, and wishing one another a Happy New Year, to the accompaniment of horns and noise makers.

Well, today is a day of new beginnings and so let me be the first to wish all of you a Happy New Year. This is the day we have all awaited. This is the day to which we have looked ever since Ash Wednesday marked the start of Lent. This is the culmination of the blood, and sweat, and tears of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Today, He has arisen. He is no longer held captive in the tomb, but is alive.

A Moslem once remarked to a Christian missionary, "We have proof of the death of our prophet. When we go to Arabia we can find his tomb and thus show that he really lived. When you go to Jerusalem you cannot prove that he lived for you have no tomb." "True," replied the missionary, "We have no tomb in our religion because we have no corpse. Our Gospel ends not in a corpse, but in a conqueror."

Think of the impact this resurrection made upon the followers of Jesus. We read in our scripture how Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to the tomb, "after the sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week." Have you ever watched through the early morning hours and awaited the arrival of dawn? While I was in Korea very appropriately named "The Land of the Morning Calm," I stood guard many nights at the front lines, and watched the blackness of night give way to the beautiful light of dawn. To watch the sky slowly and gradually become light, and to see the first light of day is more breathtaking than I could ever possibly describe. This is literally what took place for these

two women. They saw the dawning of a new day, literally and figuratively. The early morning hours were for these women, moments of grief and sorrow. But they were hours in which they could at least strive to ease their grief, by going to the tomb and seeing where their beloved was entombed. Matthew tells us they went to see the sepulchre. We can well imagine their utter amazement at the events that took place, what with the earthquake and the stone being rolled away, and the angel to greet them. But it becomes all but impossible to imagine the surprise they must have felt when they first viewed the empty tomb. They certainly were not prepared for this shock. So it isn't too hard to understand why the angel told them not to be afraid, for fear was probably the first thing they experienced. A fear that the body of their beloved Jesus had been stolen, or carried elsewhere. But just imagine their joy as they are told the glorious news that He has arisen is now alive, forevermore.

This made that day dawn just that much brighter for them. What was once darkness, sadness, grief and despair, had now turned to a lightness and brightness that nothing could ever match. What made it all the more bright was for them to leave the empty tomb to tell the disciples of their discovery and to be met by none other than Jesus Himself. This not only made it believable, but here was the proof.

A minister named John Henry Jowett once told of a fellow minister when he said, "I know a man who always lights up the burial service by the wonderful way in which he reads the resurrection chapter in Paul's letter to the Corinthians. While he reads you can see and feel the morning dawning, even though you are in the house of the dead."

This is what the Easter story should do for all of us. It should create the new and glorious dawning. When God performed the miracle of resurrection, it was the beginning of a New Year for many. It is a New Year for all those who are in Christ. It is a day of

new life, of new birth.

A janitor was cleaning a church basement. He had hauled away load after load of old paint cans, and boxes, stones, scrap lumber and rubbish. He would have hauled out the old sofa that he found there, but it was too bulky and heavy to handle alone. So he pulled it over against one wall, and piled bags of leftover plaster, cement and sand on it. One day one of the ladies of the church came to the church and went to the basement to get something. She noticed that the basement was now nice and clean and during her inspection, she saw the old sofa sitting against the wall. She inquired of the janitor as to the ownership of it. He told her as far as he knew it belonged to the church. She replied that she would like to buy it. Scornfully he asked, "Yea, and just how much will you give for that old piece of junk?" She answered, "I'll give \$400 for it, because it just happens to be a French Chippendale." The janitor uncertain as to what he should do, told her he would check into it. He went to the pastor and told him. A furniture dealer was called in and after examining the sofa, told them it was worth some money. An auction was held and the sofa was sold for \$1000.

Thus it was with Jesus. The old worthless Jewish teacher had been disposed of. His body was laid in the tomb and for all intents and purposes he was just as dead as anyone else. The people who had wanted his ministry ended could now breath a sigh of relief. The religious leaders were probably elated, because now this blasphemer was gone. His followers and disciples had all disappeared. Their hopes of being a part of the new order were dashed to pieces. All of that talk about tearing down the temple and rebuilding it in three days, had been just that, talk. Their leader had proven to be just as fallible as they. He was now dead and buried and his ministry was just a bunch of dreams and memories in the past.

But what no one considered was the fact that Jesus himself had predicted this. He had foretold that the stone which the builders would reject, would become the head of the corner. That old worthless body was gone, and it had been replaced with the new and glorious risen Saviour Jesus Christ.

The full significance of Easter is that Jesus conquered death and the grave and through Him we may have eternal life; It should be

For each Christian a cause for joy and thanksgiving now, and something which we can anticipate at the close of this earthly life.

During World War II things became so bad in many areas that many times people were evacuated for their own safety. In Portugal a missionary was advised to send his family back to England for their safety. So one morning he saw his wife and his eight children, as well as his sister and her three children loaded aboard an ocean liner, bound for England. He remained behind. On the Sunday following their departure he stood before his congregation and announced, "I've just received word that all my family have arrived safely home." He then led the service of worship. It was only after the service was over that the full meaning of the words became known to his people. He had received a telegram just before the start of the service, informing him that a submarine had torpedoed the ship and everyone on board had died. But he knew that all of his family were believers, and they had reached home safely. And although overcome with grief at the loss, he was able to continue through the grace of God, knowing that his loved ones were enjoying eternity, through the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

What a cause for celebration. Jesus made it possible for man to cross from darkness to dawn; from death to life; from the old to the new. It should be "HAPPY NEW YEAR" this Easter and every Easter. "Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia" and Amen.

Sunday, April 5, 1970

Mr. Ralph Link, Lay Minister

Prelude
Lighting the Candles of Worship
*Hymn No. 80
*Invocation and Choral Introit
*Prayer of Confession - Our Heavenly Father, who
by Your love made me, and through Your love have
kept me, and in Your love would make me perfect, I
humbly confess that I have not loved You with all
my heart, soul, mind and strength, and that I have
not loved my neighbor as Christ loved me. Your
life is within my soul but my selfishness has
hindered You. I have not lived by faith. I have
resisted Your spirit. I have neglected Your
inspirations. Forgive what I have been; help me to
amend what I am; and in Your Spirit direct what I
should be; that You may come into the full glory of
Your creation, in me and in all men, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.
*The Kyrie
*The Assurance of Pardon
*The Gloria Patri
Responsive Reading, Sel. 34, Page 584
Hymn No. 239
The Scripture Lesson - John 20:19-29
Pastoral Prayer and Choral Response
Offertory
*Doxology and Dedication of Tithes and Offerings
The Anthem "Scatter Sunshine" The Junior Choir
The Sermon "Without a Doubt"
*Hymn No. 176
*Benediction and Choral Response
*Postlude
*Indicates that we stand
Greeters
Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Beck

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This afternoon at 2:00 - Consistory Meeting
Wednesday evening at 6:30 - Junior Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday evening at 7:15 - Senior Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday evening at 8:00 - Double G Class Meeting
Thursday evening at 8:00 - Washington Township
Committee will meet in the home of Mrs. Milner
Mainel.

Friday, April 10 - The Vacation Bible School work-
shop will be held with two sessions at 1:00 p.m. and
7:30 a.m. All staff members and teachers are asked
to contact Faye Cox about attending.

Sunday, April 12 - If present schedules are main-
tained, Rev. Kettering will be in our pulpit for
his first sermon as minister at First Church.

Mrs. Curt (Bessie) Hill wishes to thank everyone
for cards, flowers and prayers extended on her be-
half. Bessie is recuperating at home. Gary Luke-
hart continues to make progress and is still a
hospital patient. Dora DeVilling underwent surgery
last Monday in Citizens Hospital and is recovering
nicely. John Howley, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Paul
Howley, was able to spend Easter at home after hav-
ing been hospitalized.

The rosebuds on the altar announce the arrival of
two baby girls, the one born to Mr. and Mrs.
Preston (Lina Barker) Smith, and the other, Judith
Lynn, born to S/Sgt. and Mrs. William Freynton.

The Double G Class will hold a cooking demonstra-
tion at the West Penn Power Building in Washington
Township on April 21 at 7:30 p.m. Donations are
fifty cents per person and tickets may be obtained
from class members.

Just so happen Thos carp by trade
 While Abbanes in nat place, Js came up said,
 "Wouldst thou buy a carpenter?"
 Abbanes say, "Yes."
 Js say; "I have slave that carp, I desire sell."
 At this he point Thos in distance.
 Js agree price. Thos sold
 agreement read; "I Js, son of Jos carp, acknowledge
 I have sold my slave Thos by name unto thee Abbanes
 a merchant of Sundaphorus, King of the Indians."
 After deed drawn up, Js take Thos to Abbanes 7405.
 Abbanes ask Thos, "Is this your master?"
 Thos reply, "Indeed he is."
 Abbanes tell him, "I have bot you from him."
 Thos no ready.
 But in morn he rise early, pray
 after prayer he say Js, "I will go whither thou
 wilt Lord Js; thy will be done."
 Story then go on tell how Sundaphorus command Thos
 build palace & Thos told him he can do
 King gave Thos all money needed bgy materials, &
 hire workmen.
 But Thos give all away to poor
 He keep telling king, "Palace rising steadily."
 But king grow suspicious.
 Finally sends Thos, asks, "Hast thou built me palac
 Thos answer, "Yes."
 When shall we go see, asks king?
 Thos answers; "thou canst not see it now, but when
 thou departest this life, then thou shalt see it."
 King angry, Thos life endangered,
 but finally king won over xpianity, this how Thos
 brought xpianity to India.
 two things stand out life Thos
 1st, he actually refuse believe that which cannot
 see. would not trust, in this respect absolutely
 honest.
 Thos not kind man blindly tell of faith. no belie
 Tennyson wrote; "There lives more faith in honest
 doubt, believe me, than in half the creeds."
 (Illustration Baptist Fish)
 This true all denom.
 Easter, Amas good examp this
 full church, many come, no idea what they belie
 Oh, have some vague notion Js,
 but ends there.

2/

"Without A Doubt!"

Text: John 20:24-29

In world a nation make use word doubt often
 in merchandizing, whether car, washer, appliance
 (anything else, without doubt, best on market
 Jury told "if reasonable doubt, then acquit"
 People show doubt in belief of all kinds
 Thomas in Scripture could very well say, "I doubt
 certainly very sceptical
 we call doubting Thomas,
 this respect we show feelings toward doubters
 Thomas may been doubter, or sceptic, but very loyal
 Loved Js, disc.
 reason that not with other discs, grief stricken
 no want others see this
 since loved Js so much, made statement, would no
 believe until he saw for self
 When saw, made complete acceptance, "My Lord,
 and My God."
 Latter life Thos not really known.
 book supposedly life of Thos called, "Acts Of Thos
 Only legendary story,
 but true to character as far as Thos concerned
 Story like this:
 After death Js, discs divide up world among them
 Each took section known world preach spread Gospel
 India fell Thos by lot.
 Some truth here, cause Thomist church South India,
 the origin Thos
 At 1st Thos refuse go, said,
 "I am an Hebrew man; how can I go among the Indians
 and preach the truth?"
 Js appeared nite, said; "Thos, fear not, go thou int
 India & preach the word there for my grace is with
 thee."
 But Thos stubbornly refuse, said;
 "Master, whether thou sendest me I will go, send me
 but send me elsewhere, for unto the Indians I will
 not go."
 Just so happened certain merchant came from India
 to Jerusalem.
 His name Abbanes
 Was sent by King Sundaphorus find skilled carp
 bring back India

So easy stand before cong, say few I Do's, 3/
 & then you a Xpian
 almost as easy as getting married.
 We have mixed up Churchianity for Christianity.
 We been reaping benefits for many yrs, with empty
 pews & half committed peop
 we long list peop on roles, but not there cause
 no commitment to Js Christ.
 Relig not taken seriously
 We should have Thos doubt.
 we should question all of relig from Apost creed^{om}
 We should question about Bible.
 So easy say, "Well, I accept B. as inspired
 word of God," but what does that mean to you?
 But should find out what we believe,
 find out who wrote, when how written, what about
 (Illustration Bible for present) et
 We may never receive a gift copy compliments of
 author, but we should know His word.
 Nother point Thos, way he made up mind.
 Once sure, he went all way.
 He say Js, "My Lord, and My God."
 nothing % here.
 He go all way
 This we need today, more dedicated men & women.
 More peop on fire for Lord,
 & not just in pulpits either
 Too many lukewarm xpians
 Only time many give Allegiance God, when need help
 Many only need help, hatched, matched, dispatched
 Bapt, marry, bury.
 Too many only need church when problems or trouble
 To have doubts human
 we all have them.
 I know sceptic asks show me risen Lord?
 Cannot actually prove this, nor more prove air
 We know air all round us, cannot see it, but there
 So impossible prove resurrection Js.
 We must accept as Thos, "My Lord & My God."
 Js summed up to Thos, "You believe because you can
 ee me. Happy are those who have not seen & yet
 believe."
 We no see as Thos, yet we profess belief.
 We should show acceptance Withou A Doubt, & live it

Without A Doubt

Text: John 10; 24-29

In the world today and in our nation we make use of the word doubt quite often. In merchandising we say, "This product, whether it be a car appliance or anything else, is without a doubt the best on the market. In jury trials, the jury is often instructed that if they have a reasonable doubt as to the guilt of an individual, then it is their duty to acquit him. People often use the phrase, "I'm from Missouri, you'll have to show me," when they are sceptical about something. Well the man in our Scripture this morning could very well have uttered this phrase, because he was certainly very sceptical. And don't we often refer to a person sometimes as a, "Doubting Thomas?" In this respect we show what our feelings are toward a doubter.

Thomas may have been a doubter, or a pessimist as we would call him, but he was also a loyal disciple. He loved Jesus and it is thought that the reason why he was not with the other disciples, was due to the fact that he did not want anyone to see how grief stricken he was over the death of Jesus, so he went into seclusion. And since he loved Jesus so much he made the statement that he would not believe it was Jesus unless he actually saw the nail prints and touched them and saw the wound in Jesus side. And when he was convinced that it really was Jesus he made the complete acceptance of his Saviour by stating, "My Lord and my God."

The later life of Thomas is not really known. But there is a book that is supposedly the history of Thomas. It is called, "The Acts of Thomas." It is only a legendary story, but it certainly is true to character as far as Thomas is concerned. ~~After the resurrection of Jesus~~ The story goes like this, "After the death of Jesus, the disciples divided the world up among them. That is they each took a certain section of the known world to preach in and to spread the Gospel. India fell to Thomas by lot. There is some truth here since the Thomist Church

South India can trace its origin to Thomas. At first Thomas refused to go. He used the excuse that he was not strong enough for the journey. He said, "I am an Hebrew man; how can I go among the Indians and preach the truth?" But Jesus appeared to him at night and said, "Fear not Thomas, go thou into India and preach

the word there, for my grace is with thee." But Thomas very stubbornly refused. He said to Jesus, "Whither thou wouldst send me, send me, but elsewhere for unto the Indians I will not go."

Now it just so happened that a certain merchant came from India to Jerusalem. He was named Abbanes. He had been sent by King Gundaphorus to find a skilled carpenter and to bring him back to India. And it just so happened that Thomas was a carpenter by trade. While Abbanes was in the market place, Jesus came up to him and said, "Wouldest thou buy a carpenter?" Abbanes replied, "Yes." Then Jesus said, "I have a slave that is a carpenter, and I desire to sell him," at this He pointed to Thomas in the distance. So they agreed on a price and Thomas was sold. The agreement they had between them read, "I, Jesus, the son of Joseph the carpenter, acknowledge that I have sold my slave Thomas by name unto thee Abbanes, a merchant of Gundaphorus, king of the Indians." After the deed was drawn up Jesus found Thomas and took him to Abbanes. Abbanes asked Thomas, "Is this your master?" And Thomas replied, "Indeed he is." Abbanes told him, "I have bought thee from him." Thomas said nothing. But in the morning he rose early and prayed. After his prayer he said to Jesus, "I will go whither thou wilt Lord Jesus; thy will be done."

The story then goes on to tell how Gundaphorus commanded Thomas to build a palace and Thomas told him that he was able to do so. The king gave Thomas all the money that he needed to buy the materials and hire the workmen. But Thomas gave it all away to the poor. He would keep telling the king that the palace was rising steadily. But the king grew suspicious. Finally he sent for Thomas. And he asked, "Hast thou built me the palace." And Thomas answered, "Yes." When then shall we go and see it," asked the king? Thomas replied, "Thou canst not see it now, but when thou departest this life, then thou shalt see it." At first the king was very angry and Thomas was in danger of his life. But finally the king was won over to Christianity and this is how Thomas brought Christianity to India.

There are two things that stand out in the life of Thomas. The first thing is the fact that he absolutely refused to say that he believed, when indeed he did not. In this respect he was absolutely honest. Thomas had to be sure.

Thomas was not the kind of man who would blindly tell of his faith and not believe in it. Tennyson wrote, "There lives more faith in honest doubt, Believe me than in half the creeds."

There is a story told of a Baptist minister who was strolling along the sea walk during a convention of his members in Charleston. He happened to meet an old colored man fishing. For a long time he watched the man sit very patiently waiting for a bite. Finally he got a bite and hooked the fish and pulled him in. It was an odd looking fish and the minister asked what kind it was. The man replied that it was called a Baptist fish. "A Baptist fish the minister asked," rather sceptically. "Sure," said the man, "They call them that because they spoil so fast after they are taken out of the water." Now this is true of all denominations. ^{SAME EX. FOR CHURCH} Many people come into them, but they have no ~~idea~~ ^{IN} idea ~~in~~ what ~~exists~~. ^{IN} it is they believe. Oh, they have a vague notion about Jesus, but that's about where it ends. It is so easy to stand before the rest of the congregation, and say a few, "I do's" and then you are a Christian. It's almost as easy as getting married. I think that in many respects the churches that require a period of classes for prospective members have a good idea. I think that because we have made Christianity so easily obtained, we are reaping it with the empty churches and a long list of people on the rolls who should be there. ^{NOT HERE} Religion is not taken as seriously as it should be. We should have a certain amount of Thomas's doubt. This questioning should involve all facets of our religion from the meaning of the Apostles Creed to the structure of the Bible. It is so easy to repeat the Creed and never really know what it means. And it is so easy to say, "Well, I accept the Bible as the inspired word of God." And let it go at that. But what we should do is to try to find out just what it is that the Creed means. And we should dig into the Bible to see who wrote it and how it was written and the ^{EX. OF HIM} circumstances under which it was written. ^{8 WHAT IT SAYS TO ME IN MY LIFE} This would help not only to make more dedicated Christians, but people who were well versed in their religion and who would take it seriously enough to be a real active Christian.

^{AND THE} ~~The second point~~ of Thomas, was the fact that once he made up his mind, or when he was sure, he went all the way. He answered Jesus, "My Lord and

my God." He was sure and with this surety he was willing to go all the way. He did not stop half way and just say, "My Lord." No he had to give all of the title to Jesus. This is another thing we need in our religion today. More dedicated men and women. And I don't ~~just~~ ^{mean} behind the pulpit either. Too many of our church people are luke warm Christians. The only time they really give the allegiance to their Saviour is when they are in need of help. A minister friend of mine once told me that the people who demand the most as far as religious services are concerned, are the ones who never darken the doorway of the church. But just let one of their loved ones die or become ill, and they expect the minister to be right on the job at their beck and call. To be halfway in our religion is ~~is~~ almost as bad as having no religion at all. We need to live it as well as confess it.

To have doubts as Thomas did is human. All of us have them from time to time. But when it comes to our Christianity we can have no doubts. Oh, I know that the sceptical ask for proof of Jesus as the Risen Lord. But to try to prove this is almost as difficult as trying to prove that there is such a thing as air. We know that it is all around us, but we can't see it. But does this mean it does not exist? Of course not, so it is just as impossible to prove the resurrection of Jesus. We must accept it by faith. We must accept Him as our Lord And our God ^{As,} by faith ~~also~~. This is perhaps a difficult thing for some Christians to do, especially if they are of a doubting nature. But Jesus summed it up when He said to Thomas, "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe." We have not seen Jesus as the disciples and Thomas did, and yet we profess to believe. We have accepted Jesus as our Lord and our God, and so we should show this acceptance by not being doubtful about our Christianity. We should ~~live with this~~ live the Christian life, and believe in our Saviour without any doubts at all. Then when we profess our faith, we can truly say, "I believe in Jesus Christ without a doubt." Let us pray.

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord:
By the word of the Lord were the heavens made.
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for praise is
of 17 ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST for the upright.

BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER APRIL 28, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR

MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST

MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR

BILL WATTERSON, STEVE BASEHORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "ANDANTE PASTORALE", IN A" SPENCE
"PRELUDE SERIEUSE" STRICKLAND

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 177 "SING WITH ALL THE SONS OF GLORY"

*ASCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "GRACIOUS GOD, FATHER OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOU HAVE PROMISED TO RECEIVE US
WHEN WE COME TO YOU. WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED
AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED. WE HAVE DIS-
OBEYED YOUR LAW. WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU OR OUR NEIGHBORS
AS WE SHOULD. FORGIVE US, O GOD, AND GRANT THAT
WE MAY LIVE AND SERVE YOU IN NEWNESS OF LIFE THROUGH
JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: TO LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: PHILIPPIANS 3: 7-21

HYMN No. 254 "JESUS, I LIVE TO THEE"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

"ADAGIO CANTABILE" BEETHOVEN

ANTHEM: "I WALKED INTO THE GARDEN" BY WEAVER

SERMON: "OLD REDSTEADS, ANYONE?"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 469 "I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "MAESTOSO"

MARTIN

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED
BY MR. & MRS. CUSTEAD IN MEMORY OF MR. & MRS. JOHN
REINHOLD - "PARENTS". (MR. & MRS. HERMAN CUSTEAD)
THOSE SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *RAYMOND COVERT,
ROBBIE VINROE, BRIAN PEARSE, ROBERT DELLEN, CHRIS
PEARSE.

ELDER ARTHUR SNYDER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE
DOOR TODAY.

MRS. LINDA McVILLIN, JANE AND ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG
WILL BE IN THE NURSERY TODAY.

HOSPITALIZED: MR. GEORGE EICHORN, ALLEGHENY GEN.
HOSP. - PITTS.; HAROLD CAMPBELL, MRS. MATTHEW
DICKSON (HELEN) - BCMH.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. & MRS. ROLAND THOMPSON - NEW
GRANDSON - BOY BORN TO MR. & MRS. CLYDE CURRY - BCMH.
REMEMBER MAY 8 - MOTHER AND DAUGHTER TUREEN DINNER -
6:00 - THE CIRCLE SQUARES (MARY MARTHA CIR.) ARE IN
CHARGE OF THE PROGRAM AND WILL ENTERTAIN US WITH
THEIR FAMOUS SURPRISE TALENT. MAKE A DATE NOW WITH
YOUR MOTHER, DAUGHTER, NIECE OR JUST A FRIEND. MEAT
AND DESSERT AND BEVERAGE WILL BE PROVIDED - YOU WILL
NEED A TUREEN AND TABLE SERVICE.

TUESDAY - 7:30 - NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN OUR CHURCH.
DAY DECLARED BY THE CONGRESS IN WHICH THEY ARE ASKING
FOR A DAY OF HUMILIATION, FASTING AND PRAYER AND TO
TURN TO GOD AND ASK HIS GUIDANCE AND HELP IN OUR
COUNTRY.

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

THURS. - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE
HAVE ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY - 225

THE CONFIRMATION PICTURES ARE IN THE OFFICE - THEY
ARE BEAUTIFUL - SEE REA IN THE OFFICE - \$4.00 EACH.

TUES. & THURS. - WORK NIGHT IN THE APARTMENT AT 110
WALKER AVE.

MAY 5 - LAKE ERIE ASSOCIATION MEETING - LOIS WOGAN
AND ANN WILLIAMS - DELEGATES - ST. MARKS - NEW HAMBURG.

He goes on to say vs 12b
then vs 14

2/

(Illustration Daniel Webster statement)

It is what Paul getting at.
He sayings must leave all worthless monuments we
tend build, behind

Must point selves, others Almighty God, then
showing them Js Ap.

How many u know wrapped up in old bedstead?

How many us so concerned things-objects-bedstead

(Illustration London Newspaper prize)

This in essence what Paul trying tell peop Philippi
He say- vs 17

Last week working as chap. of wk for Nat. Council
churches

reminded house worked in several yrs ago.

Couple live house, no children

adopted every stray cat, dog, hurt, crippled etc.
 even went out town pick up

she said spent 40-50 dollars month med.-animals.

Thurs called on woman upset be in hospital
listened story soon evident why upset.

About 12 yr ago took in home foster baby boy

he afflicted cerebral palsy

gave boy, all love & concern

real mother want institutionalize boy, sever all tie
expert say, boy die 2 mos, because loss love
able adopt boy as own

now now is only about this big, (2 feet)

know them, loves them - they love him.

Boy requires all time & efforts, both hus. & wife

this why she upset in hosp broken back, anxious get
real clincher, she spend 40-50 dollar med. home

here 2 cases same amt money spent med.

1 for animal, other humans

why normal healthy peop take 24 hr, 7day wk job
care someone else afflicted child?

why on other hand person lavish all love, animal
more humane destroy, & neglect use time-money
helping other humans?

now fork classic examp too many animals, peop so
concern other humans.

"Old bedsteads, anyone?"

Deut. 3:11, "For only Og the king of Bashan
was left of the remnant of the Rephaim; behold, his
bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Sabbah
of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and
four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit

Philippians 3:14, "I press on toward the goal for
the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Much ado made over size peop - things, present world
sports, biggest, heaviest linemen for football
Basketball, looks fellows over 6 ft
Business, industry, trying make, package lge
economy sizes

In Bible story of men, who last in long line tribe
of giants

group known as Rephaim

story in Deut 3

Moses telling story,

(read this story)

Bedstead referred to considered be burial sarcophagus
made like bedstead.

cubit 1 1/2 in. length 13 1/2 ft, width 4 ft

can see large man

from story determine Og last of giants
he destroyed - only bedstead remain

we looking back ancient history,
even back there, inclination strive vast kingdoms,

pires, wealth, amass fortunes

& reached etc in power-riches

got overthrown by lesser, & now they turn be

figurative giants of world

prominent wealthy man died, question asked, "how
much did he leave?"

Someone answer, "he left everything."

yes, everything left behind at passing of every life
sometimes only thing mark passing, old iron bed

Contrast life Og - life Paul tells about in script.
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX I have XXXXXXXX the loss of all things~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX as XXXXXXX~~

(read Phil 3:8)

Paul stating, nothing more worthwhile in world
than serve Master Js Ap, all else nothing

In the book James we read, 3/
"If a brother or sister is illclad & in lack of
daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in
peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them
the things needed for the body, what does it profit?"

It is more important to care for the afflicted
humans all around us.

But u see, we all involved bilding monuments some
Diff peop place diff priority on what import kind
We all prob have some old iron bedstead our life
should getvrid of.

Paul also says vss 18-21

Paul reiterating, we should be living for heavenly
home,

forget living to selves here on earth

What will u & I leave behind?

Will merely be old iron bedsteads for anyone us?

Someone once said, "One life twill soon be past,
& only that done for Js Xp will last."

"Old Bedsteads, Anyone?," or will it be that goal
we press on toward, for the upward call of God
in Christ Jesus?

"Old Bedsteads, Anyone?"

Text: Deut. 3:11, "For only Og the king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the Rephaim; behold, his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit."

Philippians 3:14, "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Much ado is made over the size of people and things in our present day world. For instance, in sports, the biggest and heaviest line-men are sought for football teams. In basketball, the teams are looking for the fellows who are well over six feet. In business and industry everyone is trying to make and package things in large economy sizes.

Well in the Bible there is a story of a man who was the last in a long line of giants of a certain tribe. This group was known as the Rephaim, and the story is found in Deuteronomy 3: Moses is telling this story and we read, (read 3:1-11)

"For only Og the king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the Rephaim; behold, his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length, and four cubits its breadth, according to the common cubit."

The bedstead referred to in this scripture was considered by most authorities to be not a bedstead as we know it, but instead a burial sarcophagus. Using the rule of thumb that a cubit was 18 inches in length, this sarcophagus would have been 13½ feet long and 6 feet wide. Thus we can see that it would have been made for a large man.

From this story we can determine that only Og remained of a tribe of giants and he was also destroyed, and the only thing left was his iron bedstead. We are looking back over ancient history, and even way back then, the inclination was to strive for vast kingdoms and empires, for wealth and to amass fortunes. Og had reached the heights in power and riches. Yet, he was overthrown by the Israelites and it was now their turn to be the figurative giants of that part of the world.

A prominent ~~xxxx~~ wealthy man died not too long ago and someone in striving to determine just how much money he had remarked, "How much did he leave." Someone else answered the question by saying, "He left everything." Yes, ~~sometimesxxxxtheendof~~ everything is left at the end of every life, and sometimes the only thing left to mark the passing of someone is only an old iron bedstead.

Contrast the life of Og with the life Paul tells about in our scripture where he states, "For Jesus' sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in Him." Paul is stating that there is nothing more worthwhile in the world than serving the master Jesus Christ. All else is nothing compared to this.

He goes on to say, "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call ~~xxx~~ of God in Christ Jesus," and he urges others of the same mind to do likewise.

Daniel Webster made the statement, "If we work upon marble it will perish, If we work upon brass, time will efface it. If we rear temples, they will crumble to dust. But if we work upon men's immortal minds, if we imbue them with high principles, with the just fear of God and love of their fellowmen, we engrave on those tablets something which no time can efface, and which will brighten and brighten to all eternity."

This is what Paul was getting at. He was saying that we should leave behind us all of those worthless monuments we tend to build to ~~xxxxxx~~ ourselves, and we must point ourselves and others to Almighty God through showing them Jesus Christ. How many people do you know that are all wrapped up in a monument that will be left behind? How many of us are so concerned with things and objects that are the equivalent of the old iron bedstead of King Og?

Some years ago a London newspaper offered prizes for the best answers to the question, "Who are the happiest people on earth?"

The following were adjudged the four best answers:

The craftsman or artist whistling over a job well done
little child building sand castles
A mother, after a busy day, bathing her baby
A doctor who has finished a difficult and dangerous operation, and saved
a human life.

Notice there are no playboys, no millionaires, no international jet setters, no kings, no hollywood stars, no people high on drugs or other stimulants. Just plain things that require work and love. This in essence was what Paul was trying to tell these people in Philippi. He said, "Join in imitation me, and mark those who so live as you have an example in us." He was beseeching others to follow him in this type of living. He was telling them that we can look at the lives of others and we can measure their Christianity by their lives.

This past week as I worked in the hospital as the Chaplain of the week, representing the Butler Area Council of Churches, I was reminded of a home in which I worked ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ some years ago. The couple who lived in this house had no children. But they adopted every stray cat and dog that came around. In fact they even went to distant states to pick up dogs and cats their friends had collected and brought them back to Butler and nursed them back to health. The woman told me they spent between 40 and 50 dollars every month just in medicine for these animals.

On Thursday I called on a woman who did not belong to a church and who was very upset because she had to be in the hospital. As I listened to her story it soon became evident why she was upset. The story is that about 13 years ago she and her husband took into their home a baby boy as a foster child. The boy was ~~suffering~~ afflicted with cerebral palsy. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ They gave this boy all of their love and their concern. After a certain length of time, the real mother of the boy decided she wanted his place in an institution, and wanted to sever all ties with him. The woman and her husband checked into adopting the boy, and in the process were told that if the boy were placed in an institution, he would ~~live~~ in all probability die within six months. The reason being that he had grown to love them in

Here are two cases in which the same amount of money was being spent for medicines. One was for animals, the other for humans. ~~WHICHXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~are the people~~ Why would a person who has no children otherwise, tie herself down to a 7 day a week, 24 hour a day job of raising someone else's afflicted child? when this was not something she had to do? Why on the other hand would a person lavish so much love on animals, many of which it would have been more humane to destroy, and neglect to ~~show that~~ use that money and time in helping some other human? I love animals, but I believe it is more important to care for the afflicted humans of the world than for the animals.

~~the money was nothing to leave behind~~

But you see we all are involved in building a monument of some kind. Different people place different priorities on what is really important to them. We all probably have some old iron bedsteads in our lives that we should rid ourselves of. ~~When we read of some of the examples of different people we cannot help but feel a sense of joy~~ Paul also reminds us of this when he says, "Many of whom I told you and now tell you even with tears, live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our commonwealth is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power which enables him even to subject all things to himself."

Paul is merely reiterating that we should be living for
t^h heavenly home and forget about living to ourselves here on earth.
What will you and I leave behind? Will it merely be old bedsteads for anyone
off us? Someone coined the words, "One life, twill soon be past, and only
that done for Jesus Christ will last." Which will it be, old bedsteads,
or

Someone once penned the words, "One life, twill soon be past,
only that done for Jesus Christ will last." What will you and I leave be-
hind? Will it merely be old bedsteads for anyone of us? Or will it be
that ~~wish~~ goal that we presson toward, for the upward call of God in
Christ Jesus?

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FESTIVAL OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME
MOTHER'S DAY May 12, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, MINISTER
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MRS. CYNTHIA SYBERT, YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAULA STEPHENSON, NANCY LINK - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE MUSIC: "CANATINA" RARE
"CABALETTA" LACK

- SILENT PRAYER
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 12 "FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH"
*ACCOLITE - CHORAL AMEN
*EXHORTATION
*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "CHRIST, WE ARE GLAD TO BE AN IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR KINGDOM, AND WE JOYFULLY ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE WHICH OUR MEMBERSHIP SETS BEFORE US. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THAT CHALLENGE IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, IN ORDER TO SHARE OUR CONCERNS WITH YOU AND ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST. JOIN US AS WE SEARCH OUR HEARTS AND WILLS, THAT WE MAY KNOW OUR SHORTCOMINGS. SEARCH OUR DESIRES AND AMBITIONS WITH US, THAT WE MAY KNOW IF THEY ARE PURE, SINCERE, AND WORTHY OF FULFILLMENT. ACCEPT OUR HONEST SEARCHING AS OUR CONFESSION IN CHRIST. AMEN."
*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR.)
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
*PRAISE
*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS
*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.
*DOXOLOGY No. 55
SCRIPTURE LESSON: PROVERBS 31: 10-31
HYMN No. 390 "COME, LET US JOIN WITH FAITHFUL SOUL"
*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)
*GLORIA PATRI
*CALL TO PRAYER
*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

- *PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE
OFFERING
OFFERTORY: "LULLABY" BRAHMS
ANTHEM: "IN PASTURES GREEN" - YOUTH CHOIR -
SOLO - LLOYD LINK - BY ALLENE K. RIXBY
SERMON: "MOTHERS AND OTHERS!"
PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 11 "YE SERVANTS OF GOD"
*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO" BARNES
- - - - - *CONGREGATION STANDING - - - - -
THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MR. & MRS. LOUIS ZURIK IN MEMORY OF THEIR "MOTHERS"
PESSIE ZURIK AND MABEL JONES.
SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, JOHN SNOW,
MONT MACKINNEY, JAMES MALONEY, STEVE VARGO.
MR. & MRS. EARL HOGAN WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE
DOOR TODAY.
NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. BARBARA VARGO
AND MARY ANN SNOW.
HOSPITALIZED: MRS. JUDY MASSERT -560; MR. HERMAN
LIPPLE - 377; MRS. MARY YOUNG.
THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY - 224.
THE CLOSING HYMN TODAY YE SERVANTS OF GOD IS THE
"NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS" HYMN OF THE MONTH
FOR MAY. TODAY IS THE CLOSE OF NATIONAL MUSIC
WEEK.
WE WISH TO THANK MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON FOR PLAYING
THE PIANO TODAY.
- - - - -
MARIE STAUFFER WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE CONGREGATION
FOR ALL THE CARDS AND VISITORS AND PASTOR LINK'S
VISITS AND PRAYERS, WHILE SHE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL.
GEORGE EICHORN WANTS TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SENT
HIM CARDS - REMEMBERED HIM IN THEIR PRAYERS AND FOR
THE PASTOR FOR HIS CALLS.
- - - - -
THE FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A STRONG
ADVOCATE OF MUSIC IN RELIGION AND THIS YEAR'S THEME:
"MUSIC ENHANCES LIFE" NOT ONLY SUGGESTS THE BEAUTY
AND PLEASURE THAT MUSIC CAN BRING TO ONE'S LIFE, BUT
ALSO REMINDS US OF THE GREAT LOVE OF OUR CREATOR,
FROM WHOM THIS BEAUTIFUL GIFT HAS COME JUST FOR OUR
VERY JOY OF IT. *OFFICIAL END*

Thanks to the People of St. Paul's Church

SCRIP: 1 PETER 3:1-12; SERM: "MOTHERS & OTHERS"

~~THESE WORDS, PETER, 3:1-12, 1-12~~

~~THESE WORDS, PETER, 3:1-12, 1-12~~

BGIN EXAMPLS SHO BRKDN FAMLYS AS V.P. DAN QUAYLE PT OUT US LAPP
AT

NOW IT POLIT COREC 2SPK THIS & WVN OCUPANT WHIT HOUS SEZ IT
WILH ISSUE IN NOV ELECTIN - BUT WIL IT BRING BOUT CHANGE?
MUS WAIT & C

PETER SITE TH/STANDARD FOR TH/HOME IN THIS SCRIP

~~THESE WORDS, PETER, 3:1-12, 1-12~~

~~THESE WORDS, PETER, 3:1-12, 1-12~~

~~THESE WORDS, PETER, 3:1-12, 1-12~~

~~THESE WORDS, PETER, 3:1-12, 1-12~~

~~THESE WORDS, PETER, 3:1-12, 1-12~~

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COMMUNITY WIRLS CHURCH - RAGMONE, PA. - MAY 12, 1996

PRELUDE

GREETINGS/JOYS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS

*RESPONSIVE READING #14

*HYMN

PRAYER/OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

*KINEX PASTORAL PRAYER

*KINEX HYMN

SCRIPTURE: 1 PETER 3:1-12

SERMON: "MOTHERS AND OTHERS"

ST. PAUL'S, BUTLER - 5/12/74

BENEDICTION

*HYMN

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

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These few excerpts

but I see, some want to be in world
I can't ability have children,
you woman mental inst. can have baby.

Not important women can have child. but what kind parent
is she? ~~WOMAN IN FLORIDA - ALBI-770 FIRST LIFE, REMAINS, &~~
~~(read - Peter 3:1-4)~~ ~~MOTHER 'ALMOST HATES'~~
I am almosting women in ~~xxxxxxx~~ Peter 3:3-4
telling not only be obedient wives, but be example
for husband.

he saying: "Look, perhaps you married unbeliever,
we may not believe in Christ. If this case
way win him over live as Xpian."

he saying, "Don't be concerned about the outward
appearance of your hair so much, or the wearing of
jewelry, and fancy clothes, it is what is inside
your heart that is of more importance. For this is
the imperishable treasure ~~xxxx~~ of a quiet, gentle
spirit & nature that God loves."

This good advice for us today as well.

We living in world obsessed with looks.

We arent more cosmetics any nation in world.

I no talk women only, men as well.

Madison ave. department last few yrs men have changing
fashions.

last yr we bought wear new cuts suits ~~xxxx~~ shirts
etc, now even shirt shoes.

What not being said, this done waste money,
unfortunately, men fooled believing this cause
someone really cares how we can look.

Looks today very important

in, women getting facelifts remove wrinkles,
use wrinkles spell old age, & poor no want ant

Minister tell of attending conference check yr health.
last yr attended - there had ing poor after surgery
part of it was illness, around - lice infections
into women breasts to make more shapely.

What this has do help minister perform his ministry
better I no know.

But every where we turn, we confronted with huge
lack better, less better, & battering of lives
never mentioned.

I asked how many peop talk to tell us, "I would go

church if only had proper clothes."
I would like someone tell us where in bible it says
we need to dress or look a certain way down into
house.

"Mothers and Others!"

Text: 1 Peter 3:3-4,

"Let not yours be the outward adorning with braiding
of hair, decoration of gold; and wearing of robes,
but let it be the hidden person of the heart with
the imperishable jewel of a gentle and quiet spirit
which in God's sight is very precious."

Today Mother's Day

Good old Mom will be wined & dined as magnificently
as average son or daddies wallet can stand strain

~~Not so bad with all the color & the money~~
~~the color~~
~~the color & the money~~

Today

This is a climax Xpian fem wk

Last few yrs devoting person Mom, frowned on

No day been exalted family life day.,

or, more international relationships day,

or, a period for the re-evaluation between parents

& children,

or, Father, Mother, Children & their relationship to

the church,

or whatever, ~~ELSE ANYONE COULD THINK TO CALL IT.~~

We could go on, but 1 individ summed beautifully

in poem, "All the women of the world belong to one

or the other of two classifications,"

poem is short & sweet,

"Here are mothers,

then there are others!"

I

Let me real better sent to minister in "idwest,

(letter from soon pregnant girl)

~~the color & the money~~ ~~HERE~~ is opportunity look & gener-

ations of mothers.

How do you like them?

What's they wonderful peop to be entrusted raise

this way & to love this hypocritical day

anyone truly loves, others parents doesn't need

special day for it.

perhaps only we can point can look at national

celebration of motherhood & coin some humorous phrase

(Illustration Mother is etc.)

Perhaps we church peop need ponder inare we create as to dress
is day, "take no that what I should wear, and
is more import, is heart.

(Illustration little Marcha, bless your heart,

is perhaps confused, but where our heart?
is it involved showing our Christianity?
Or is it in how we look, or what is latest fashion
we can buy?

Love really happens to be the most import ingredient
in family as well as world.

In Hoburg paper cartoon, "love is" some others
(ore are few) peop have written are;

lovely aren't they?

But mostly have ring of truth about them.
We want show love - only way can do is special day
life came ultimate tragedy when we reduced this
perversion.

Do you love your mother cause today May 12?
Will U love your father June 16 cause Father's Day?
Do u love family cause today Festival Xpian home?
It's absurd isn't it?

Solomon tells us the qualities of a good wife &
mother.

And thru it all is woven the strand of her love
for her husband, children & home.

She loves because she is first loved.

We all love because we have been loved.

God loves us, & why?

Because it is Easter or Christmas, or Thanksgiving
& New Year's?

Of course not.

He loves because He loves us, period.

Just as God loves us, we should love 1 another.
We should love wives, husbands, children, families
not because we told to, not cause special day,
but cause we want to love.

Some of best lessons in life are taught by mothers.
The love of mothers strongest love in world.

Old saying, "behind every good man, good woman,"
true.

One cause good man, only good, usually cause of
mother sanctifies wife.

4/
I fortunate have both,
and mother who raised me, sacrifices me, family.
and wife,
seen her sacrifice on self for kids, me.

Don't know about you, for me, I no need special
day pay respects mother.

Thank God for mother.

Remember her cause love her, not cause May
12th.

(Illustration two families)

Some children who really love mother, will do
do more than once yr and may many, many families
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX if we love more as Christians family
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Share the day together, learning to share and love
and other, instead of trying to outdo one another
in trying to feed and honor mother.

In this way we can become complete families instead
of being separated as mother, father and children.
Instead, let us be Christian families, unit to-
gether in the common bond of love for each other,
and ~~in love~~ in love toward God, & in the love that
God gives to us.

The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the car was the cold. It was a sharp, biting cold that seemed to penetrate my coat. I shivered as I walked towards the building, my hands tucked into my pockets. The air was thick with the scent of old stone and the distant hum of city traffic.

As I entered the building, I was greeted by a man in a dark suit. He had a stern expression and a firm handshake. He led me to a small, dimly lit room. The walls were covered in a pattern of small, square tiles. The floor was made of polished wood. A single lamp on a small table cast a warm glow over the room. I sat down on a chair, feeling a sense of unease.

The man stood by the door, watching me. He spoke in a low, gravelly voice. "You are here for a reason. We need to talk. The situation is serious. We have information that could change everything. But we need to be careful. One wrong move and it could all be over. We need to trust each other. We need to work together. We need to find a way out of this mess. We need to find a way to survive. We need to find a way to win." He looked at me, his eyes intense.

Which is just as well. A... I felt a sense of relief. The man's words were clear and direct. He was telling me what I needed to hear. I nodded my head, my hands still in my pockets. The man smiled slightly, a small, knowing smile. He turned and walked back to the door. I sat there, thinking about what he had said. The situation was indeed serious. I needed to find a way out of this mess. I needed to find a way to survive. I needed to find a way to win.

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...the first of these is the fact that the women of the South are not only more intelligent than those of the North, but also more energetic and more capable of self-reliance. This is due to the fact that the women of the South have been more closely associated with the men in the various occupations of life, and have thus acquired a more practical knowledge of the world and its ways. This is also due to the fact that the women of the South have been more closely associated with the men in the various occupations of life, and have thus acquired a more practical knowledge of the world and its ways.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES.

...the first of these is the fact that the women of the South are not only more intelligent than those of the North, but also more energetic and more capable of self-reliance. This is due to the fact that the women of the South have been more closely associated with the men in the various occupations of life, and have thus acquired a more practical knowledge of the world and its ways. This is also due to the fact that the women of the South have been more closely associated with the men in the various occupations of life, and have thus acquired a more practical knowledge of the world and its ways.

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MEN &

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& THROUGH IT.

WEAR AS DOWN

WAS GIVEN

ON

PERHAPS WE CHURCH PEOPLE NEED TO PONDOR THE IMAGE
^
WE
CREATE
AS TO
DREW.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been named in the above mentioned document, and who are known to the undersigned as having been named in the same.

1. The first named person is the late John A. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

2. The second named person is the late John B. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

3. The third named person is the late John C. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

4. The fourth named person is the late John D. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

5. The fifth named person is the late John E. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

6. The sixth named person is the late John F. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

7. The seventh named person is the late John G. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

8. The eighth named person is the late John H. Smith, who was named in the above mentioned document as having been named in the same.

1. MUST AND 3

OF OUR HER PRESENTS & FLOWERS

Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:
sing forth the honor of His name:
make His praise glorious.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER May 19, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, MINISTER
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
GORDON KENNEDY, MARY DELLEN - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE MUSIC: "PRELUDE IN E FLAT" MOOREHEAD
"ANDANTE CON MOTO" JOHNSTON

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 39 "SAFELY THROUGH ANOTHER WEEK"

*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, WE HAVE
DONE LITTLE TO FORWARD THY KINGDOM IN THIS WORLD, TO
ESTABLISH THE BROTHERHOOD OF MEN, AND LOVE AS THE LAW
OF LIFE. WE HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT WHATSOEVER IS DONE
TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THY BRETHREN IS DONE UNTO THEE.
FORGIVE OUR SHORTCOMINGS; FORGIVE OUR PAST NEGLIGENCE.
GIVE US A SIMPLE AND A SINGLE HEARTY INTENT ON PLEASING
THEE. HELP US IN ALL OUR SEEKING TO SEEK FIRST THY
KINGDOM AND THY RIGHTEOUSNESS, THAT WE MAY BE BLESSED WITH
THE FULL MEASURE OF THY BLESSING. AND MAKE US TO COME,
AS CAME THY SON JESUS CHRIST, NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO,
BUT TO MINISTER. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: EPHESIANS 5: 15-33

HYMN No. 286 "WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE?"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

PAUSE AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "IN A QUIET GARDEN" SERGISSON

ANTHEM: "BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR" ARR. BY CHRISTIANSEN

SERMON: "MAKING A KING!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 282 "FAITH OF OUR FATHERS!"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRETTO MAESTOSO" WILSON

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
DONN E. MILLER IN MEMORY OF "MOTHER" DOROTHY KALB
MILLER.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY: *CHARLES FENAR, DARYL TAIT,
GARY FENAR, DON KINGSLEY.

DEACON AND MRS. HARRY FRY WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT
THE MEETING TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. MARGARET COVERT
AND PAULA STEPHENSON.

HOSPITALIZER: MR. HERMAN LIPPOLD, MRS. MARY YOUNG,
AND REV. GRANVILLE COOPER.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY - 233.

MR. WILLIAM BUTTER WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE CONGREGATION
FOR ALL THE CARDS AND PRAYERS AS HE IS CONVALESCING.
OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO THE WIFE AND FRIENDS OF CARL
MILLER WHO PASSED AWAY LAST SUNDAY.

COMING SOON! - THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP WILL SPONSOR
A GARAGE SALE AT THE REAR OF 303 WALKER AVE. ITEMS
ARE NEEDED FOR THE SALE. ANY LARGE ITEMS WILL BE
PICKED UP BY CALLING THE ROBERT KNAUER'S OR DON
KENNEDY'S. THE SALE WILL BE MAY 31 AND JUNE 1ST.
IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR RESERVATION IN THE CHURCH
SCHOOL WORKERS RECOGNITION DINNER ON MAY 29 - PLEASE
DO SO.

REMEMBER - BEAT RECYCLING CENTER, SATURDAY MAY 25TH,
NEGLEY AVE. FOR INFORMATION CONTACT LIZ ARMSTRONG
287-2486.

NEXT SUNDAY WE WILL PUBLISH NAMES OF THOSE GRADUATING
FROM HIGH SCHOOL, BUSINESS SCHOOL AND COLLEGE -
PLEASE - IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO - CONTACT BEA TAIT
IN THE OFFICE OR AT HOME.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CAMPING? HAVE YOU GOTTEN REGISTER
SCHEDULE FROM THE OFFICE. THE CHURCH WILL PAY REGISTR

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etc?

10^m

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Figure 1

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40 : 100 = 23 : 100 = 23

or do he ever use his own flesh, but regards as an abomination it, as Christ loathes the church, because he is the church's body. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one. This is a great mystery, and I take it to mean ~~the church~~ Christ and the church; however, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."

that we should be, like all other wives, mothers,
and this we feel fathers, husbands,
looked critically at. last, motherhood,
this now lost equal critically male counterpart
last, known fatherhood.

still disturb any male, father when contemplate image

this series for more

my name some you, perhaps cease felt put down.
not not understand time written.

otherwise, no station in life.

its place, new standards, role w

" taught against divorce woman no longer please man
" " " enslaving anyone, thus advanced womens
lib.

being of value & worth needed nurturing & working
or perhaps really saying, "Cool it ladies, at
until you in better position to assert self."

the love our holy.

He also pointed out, "No one hates his own flesh, but nourishes it and cherishes it."

homefires kept burning, glowing by little woman, 3/
if indeed she is there & not out working.

Little by little husband/father relinquish all con-
trol until perhaps kids ask, "Who that strange man?"
May be far fetched but some homes like this almost

(Illustration Joe Joebhels)

Not only in home need good Xpian fathers, but in
Church, workaday world, & wherever influence of
good men should be felt.

Not always what say, but what we do & live speaks
(Illustration Robert McChayne) others.

Wouldn't be wonderful lead some ne to Lord this

We each have opportunities, & time we changed way?
& became examps to others

Especially to our child. gran-childs, neighbor kids

(Illustration Mrs. Richards "Hand You Hold")

Did U ever stop/think how I may be molding, influen-
cing some young person in way act, things do & not
do,

by habits, by things say & kind of language?

Yes, those little eyes upon us, little ears listen
& we should & must be providing proper guidance

(Illustration little boy & too dark out)

It indeed too dark to send any son/dotter into worl
without Father.

This P point out, he tell all peop need F., God
This F. best shown Js Xp who is God in flesh,
& Js Xp King of King, beckon all men emulate him
in living of life.

We men too often all wrapped up work, provide for
family. are

We forget our homes our castles

& in those castles should reside men/kings, women/
queens, children/princes, princesses.

Peop who all are royal children of God.

But what really make King?

(Illustration "Door Man's Castles")

Men, fathers, husbands, grandfathers, uncles,
nephews, or whatever be station in life,
now accepted time be about salvation souls, young
& old,

& most of all salvation of selves so we be about,
making & King" in indiv. homes, & surround area

It too dark go out without Father, & especially
without Father who king thru Js Xp. living in
his life.

"Making A King!"

Text: Ephesians 5:28-33

"Then so husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no man ever hates his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one." This is a great mystery, and I take it to mean Christ and the church; however let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."

Last week, those of you who were here, will recall that we talked about wives and mothers, and we said ~~about~~ this week we would be dealing with husbands and fathers. I took a rather critical look at the great American institution known as motherhood, and this morning I would like ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ^{THE} to look just as critically at ^{the} male counterpart of this institution known as fatherhood. Although the image of the male as a father and parent has not become as blown out of proportion as that of the female as a mother, it is still rather disturbing to any male or any father when we contemplate the image created for us.

Paul had some very distinct things to say to the men of Ephesus, which we read as our scripture for this morning. Probably one of the first things you ladies heard in that scripture was that Paul ~~xxx~~ advocated the obedience of wives to their husbands. Although this may rankle some of you, and perhaps cause you to feel that you are being put down, you must understand the age and the time in which it was written. Women in the days of Paul were of little value. They were in most instances only fit to do the work that needed to be done, and to bear children. Other than that, they held no station in life.

But Paul was addressing himself to women who were Christians. Jesus placed a new standard on the role of women in society. He taught against a man divorcing his wife on the whim that she no longer pleased him. He spoke against anyone enslaving anyone else, and thus Jesus advanced the cause for women's liberation. So when Paul is telling the women to be obedient to their husbands he is merely telling them, that they must be careful as to their conduct, because the idea of a woman being of value and

worth, needed to be nurtured and worked at. So he was perhaps really saying, "Wait it ladies, until you are in a better position to assert yourselves."

But what Paul really points out is that men should begin to love their wives as they love their own bodies. Now this puts a different light on the subject, because as he also points out, "No one hates his own flesh, but nourishes it and cherishes it." Isn't this true? If we cut our finger, do we not disinfect it and bandage it? If we tire ourselves out physically or mentally, we rest up so we may be able to perform our functions once again. Thus we can see that we take care of our bodies. By this we also show a love for our own flesh. So if we apply this to our relationship with our wives, we see then that we are to love them, as we love ourselves. But Paul also brings in a portion of the creation story, where we are told a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one. Paul likens this union to the union of Christ with his church. Which would be a perfect union, and we know that there are no perfect unions in humanity. Only Christ and the church are perfect unions, and really what Paul is setting before us is a standard toward which we are to strive.

I am sure that almost all of us have heard at one time or another the saying, "A man's home is his castle." To which we could ask, "Who lives in castles?" Royalty and royal families. right? How many of you ladies have ever felt that your husband was a king? Perhaps we should ask, "how many of you have crowned your husbands,?", but maybe we better not ask that to avoid embarrassment. But if we accept the statement that a man's home is his castle, then we are talking about the making of kings. Each man in his own right then is the ruler of his own little domain. But does it actually work that way? I do not believe that it does anymore. At one time almost all husbands and fathers were indeed the rulers of their households. What Father said, went. Oftentimes this authority was very much abused. But today just the reverse is true. Too often whatever Mom

says, goes. Many men have relinquished their right to use their rightful authority, just so they can sit in front of the TV undisturbed and let Mom do the chores, as well as the raising of the kids.

This is going against all that is normal and natural in the husband wife relationship. This does not mean that a man is to completely dominate the home and make everyone his slave, but it does mean that man should be just that, a man. I may be old fashioned, but I still believe that men have a certain role to play in life, and women have their role, and when women start acting and behaving as men, and men start acting and behaving as women, we have thrown everything out of kilter and we are going to reap the benefits in many ways. TELEPHONE ILLUS. (MALE OPERATORS)

Look at the statistics of divorce and separation, at the statistics of juvenile delinquency, at the statistics of frustrated men, women, and children, and the statistics of mixed up broken homes, and almost all of it can be traced to the breakdown of the American home.

Fathers, husbands, and men in general should be the stabilizing influence upon which our society functions. But alas, too often the male populace is so busy pursuing business or profession, the homefires must be kept burning, and glowing by the little woman, who waits patiently for the return of the breadwinner, and meantime is father, mother, nurse, housekeeper all rolled up into one. And gradually little by little the husband and father relinquishes all control in ~~xxxxfamily~~ family matters until perhaps the kids ask, "Who is that strange man sitting in the living room Mommy?" Now this may be a little far fetched, but some homes are almost like this.

(Illustration of Joseph Goebbels being unloved in U.S.)

It is not only in the home that we need good Christian fathers and husbands, but in the Church, in the workaday world, and wherever the influence of good men should be felt. It is not always what we may say, but perhaps THE we live that speaks to others.

(Illustration of Robert McChesney & his influence upon someone)

Wouldn't it be wonderful to lead someone to the Lord in this manner? We have the opportunities each of us, and it is time we changed and became examples to others. And we must especially be examples to our children, grand-children, and yes, even the neighbor kids.

(Mrs. A. H. Richards wrote about this very thing, "The Hand You Hold")

Did you ever stop to think how you may be molding and influencing some young person by the way you act, by the things you do or do not do, by your habits, or by the things you say and the kind of language you use? This is very sobering when we contemplate this, is it not? Yes, those little eyes are upon us, and those little ears are listening, and we should and must be providing the proper guidance.

(Illustration of little boy's need of father, "Too Dark Out")

It is indeed too dark to send any son or daughter out into the world today without a father. This is what Paul is really pointing out. He is telling all of us that people have need of the Father which is God. That this Father can best be shown through Jesus Christ, who is God in the flesh, and Jesus Christ the King of Kings beckons all men to emulate Him in the living of life.

We men ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ are too often so wrapped up in the working and providing for our families, that we forget that our homes are indeed our castles. And in those castles should reside men who are kings, and women who are queens, and children who are princes, and princesses. People who are ^{all} the royal children of God. But what really makes a king? (Illustration of a "Poor Man's Castles")

Men, fathers, husbands, grand-fathers, uncles, nephews, or whatever may be your station in life, now is the accepted time for us to be about the salvation of souls, young and old. And most of all the salvation of ourselves so we can be about "Making A King" in our individual homes, and in the surrounding areas. It is too dark to go out without a Father, and especially without a Father who is a King, through Jesus Christ living in his life.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

RECOGNITION OF SENIORS MAY 26, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, MINISTER
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
GORDON KENNEDY, MARY BELLEN - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC:	"SABBATH REVERIE"	MARTIN
	"WHEN GOD LEADS"	CLARKE

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 446 "NOW IN THE DAYS OF YOUTH"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

"CONFESSION (IN UNISON) O LORD OUR GOD, GREAT, ETERNAL, WONDERFUL IN GLORY, WHO KEEPEST COVENANT AND PROMISE FOR THOSE THAT LOVE THEE WITH THEIR WHOLE HEART, WHO ART THE LIFE OF ALL, THE HELP OF THOSE THAT FLEE UNTO THEE, THE HOPE OF THOSE WHO CRY UNTO THEE, CLEANSE US FROM OUR SINS, AND FROM EVERY THOUGHT DISPLEASEING TO THY GOODNESS. CLEANSE OUR SOULS AND BODIES, OUR HEARTS AND CONSCIENCES, THAT WITH A PURE HEART AND CLEAR MIND, WITH PERFECT LOVE AND CALM HOPE, WE MAY VENTURE CONFIDENTLY AND FEARLESSLY TO PRAY UNTO THEE. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: 10 LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*Druxology No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 SAMUEL 2: 12-26

HYMN No. 447 "Purer yet and purer"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*FACTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*FACTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:	"INTERMEZZO IN E"	PEERY
ANTHEM:	"AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"	WARD
SERMON:	"THE KEEPERS!"	

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 448 "I WOULD BE TRUE"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO" SERGISSON

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING-----
THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MR. & MRS. JAMES STEWART IN MEMORY OF MRS. ELLA
STEWART.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *RAYMOND COVERT, ROBBIE VINROE, ROBERT DELLEN, BRIAN PFABE, STEVE SMITH. DEACON AND MRS. ROBERT KNAUER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL. NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY LINDA McMILLIN, JANE AND LIZ ARMSTRONG.

NO YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEETING TON GHT.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE. THOSE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL ARE: DERRY CAMDELL, WENDY CUSTEAD, CINDY FERREE, JAMES HEATH, NANETTE MARDURGER, TERRY MOHR, SUSAN PALMER, BRENDA PAWK, TRINA RENSEL, SHERRY RENSEL, SHIRLEY RIGMER, GLENDA WEICHE.

FROM BUTLER CO. COMMUNITY COLLEGE: CHUCK SMITH - SON
OF MRS. GERALDINE MCCANDLESS, VALLE JEAN NICHOLAS,
PAMELA TAIT, RALPH TAYLOR.

COLLEGE: EDWARD HARMON, MASTERS DEGREE, SECONDARY
EDUCATION, SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY.
KENNETH W. ROBINSON, FROM CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGE,
CALIFORNIA, PA.

FROM LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY - REV. RALPH C.
LINK.

THIS COMING FRIDAY 9-9 AND SAT. 9-5 - WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP WILL HOLD A GARAGE SALE AT THE REAR OF 303 WALKER AVE. ITEMS ARE NEEDED AND SO IS YOUR SUPPORT. ANY LARGE ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP - CALL R. KNAUER'S OR DON KENNEDY'S.

THE APARTMENT AT 110 WALKER AVE. IS COMPLETED AND READY TO LEASE - IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED CALL ART SNYDER OR CONTACT THE OFFICE. BOB KNAUER WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY. MRS. MARY YOUNG IS NOW AT SUNNVIEW HOME RECOGNITION DINNER - WED. MAY 29TH AT 6:30 P.M.

"The Keepers!"

Text: I Samuel 2:12, & 26,

"Now the sons of Eli were worthless men; they knew not the Lord. And the child Samuel, grew on, and was in favor both with the Lord and also with men."

Our text for this morning is taken from the reading of the 2nd chapter of I Samuel, the 12th verse and the 26th verse. These verses tell two entirely different stories. I prefer the King James Version for this particular reading.

(Read the verses)

Hannah, if you know the Lord, was unable to have children of ~~xxxxxx~~ of ~~xxxxxx~~ Hannah was one of 2 wives ~~xxxxxx~~ Elkanah. ~~xxxxxx~~ Peninnah the other wife was able to bear children and she even taunted Hannah because of her sterility. So on the ~~xxxxxx~~ yearly occasion when they went to the Temple in Shiloh Hannah went into the Temple and prayed to God that she would be blessed and have children. She promised God that she would dedicate the Son she was praying for to the service of the Lord. God heard her prayer and granted her a son. She named this Son Samuel, which means, "Name Of God," or, "His Name Is God."

So she took the boy to the Temple in Shiloh at an early age and she left him there under the guidance and direction of the priest Eli. Eli was a good man, but alas his sons were not. They kept the best meat for themselves instead of only taking a portion of the meat and giving the largest part to the worshiper of that which was not burned during the sacrifice. If they did not receive the best part willingly from the worshiper, they took it by force as we read in the scripture. ~~xxxxxx~~

But then the author tells us about young Samuel, "But Samuel ministered before the Lord, being a child, girded with a linen ephod. which is to say that he wore a priestly garment and acted in the capacity as an assistant to the priest Eli.

Samuel's mother Hannah must have been a very good and loving mother, for we are told that each year she made a little coat for him and ^{then} brought

the coat to her son ~~each year~~ when she and ~~her husband~~ ^{her} his father came to the yearly sacrifice. ^{AT SHILAH.}

The scripture tells us that Eli the priest blessed Hannah and Elkanah and pronounced the blessing upon Hannah that she would have more children because of the loan of Samson to the Lord. And she did indeed have three more sons and two daughters. But the latter part of the 21st verse is the most significant of the entire scripture, "And the child Samuel, grew before the Lord."

In ancient Israel the word "Keeper" had several meanings. But one of the more common meanings was that as a guard over cattle or sheep. Abel was a "Keeper" of sheep as we read in the 4th chapter of Genesis. And I'm sure we all know the story of how Cain killed Abel in a fit of anger. We then read of God coming to Cain and inquiring as to the whereabouts of Abel. ~~The~~ Cain said, "I know not: am I my brothers keeper?"

Thus he was saying, "Am I the guard or the shepherd over my brother? Am I to be expected to look after him and care for him?" When we ponder this we realize of course that this saying has been carried down to us until today it is asked very often by people who are questioning their rightful relationship to people who are strangers to them. So we ask, "Am I my brothers keeper?"

If we apply this within our own families we know that we are our brothers keeper and our sisters keeper as well. But while we are concentrating our thoughts upon families we come today to look at one of the main reasons for families and this is children. Sons and daughters. We have looked at Mothers and Fathers, and now it is time we looked at children as part of the family.

~~Now~~ ^{Now} ~~Also~~ ^{Also} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~way~~ ^{way} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~con-~~ ^{con-} ~~centrating~~ ^{centrating} ~~our~~ ^{our} ~~thoughts~~ ^{thoughts} ~~upon~~ ^{upon} ~~families~~ ^{families} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~come~~ ^{come} ~~today~~ ^{today} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~look~~ ^{look} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~one~~ ^{one} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~main~~ ^{main} ~~reasons~~ ^{reasons} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~families~~ ^{families} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~this~~ ^{this} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~children.~~ ^{children.} ~~Sons~~ ^{Sons} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~daughters.~~ ^{daughters.} ~~We~~ ^{We} ~~have~~ ^{have} ~~looked~~ ^{looked} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~Mothers~~ ^{Mothers} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~Fathers,~~ ^{Fathers,} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~now~~ ^{now} ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~time~~ ^{time} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~looked~~ ^{looked} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~children~~ ^{children} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~part~~ ^{part} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~family.~~ ^{family.} ~~I~~ ^I ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~reading~~ ^{reading} ~~recently~~ ^{recently} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~coming~~ ^{coming} ~~back~~ ^{back} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~old~~ ^{old} ~~ways~~ ^{ways} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~thinking~~ ^{thinking} ~~concerning~~ ^{concerning} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~raising~~ ^{raising} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~children.~~ ^{children.} ~~The~~ ^{The} ~~author~~ ^{author} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~article~~ ^{article} ~~pointed~~ ^{pointed} ~~out~~ ^{out} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~had~~ ^{had} ~~tried~~ ^{tried} ~~a~~ ^a ~~generation~~ ^{generation} ~~or~~ ^{or} ~~so~~ ^{so} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~Dr. Spock~~ ^{Dr. Spock} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~his~~ ^{his}

theory of sparing the rod. Most of you will recall of course that Dr. Spock wrote a book putting forth his belief that spanking or punishing a child was all wrong. His theory was that a child should be spoken to and there should never be any physical punishment. Well, his theory has caused some very unhealthy situations in our nation, and from the article I read, he supposedly has withdrawn his theory in favor of certain punishments for children. Unfortunately many people have not seen his public retraction, myself included, if indeed he did make such a retraction. It always bothers me that much sensational distorted news is spread over the front page of many newspapers throughout the nation. But when a retraction is needed because some of this news is incorrect or false, you need a magnifying glass to pick it out of the want-ads, or some other place where it is seldom seen.

~~Let~~ Another eminent psychiatrist has said, "Children need rules and discipline for emotional health as much as they need bread and butter for physical health." Another man has said, "A child's character cannot be shaped by sudden accident."

Now all of this is to say that we who are parents, bear a grave responsibility in the raising of children. To begin with we do not own our children. They are merely loaned to us by God to raise to be productive people. We never own them any more than we own anything in this life. This then means that we are merely "keepers" of children. We are in charge of their feeding, clothing, education, development, and all of the other things necessary to raise them to adulthood. This is a grave responsibility and many times ~~inxxxxxxx~~ the graveness of the responsibility only dawns upon many parents ~~only~~ after the children have arrived upon the scene, and in some cases the awareness ~~is~~ strikes home when the children are fairly well grown. Sadly too, the awareness of parental responsibility sometimes never manifests itself in the lives of some parents and children are left to almost raise themselves. Needless to say this causes them many problems. Many times in my conversations with people who are either

outside the church or who are occasional church attenders, I am told that when the children reach the age whersby they are able to make decisions, they are then free to choose their own religion and their own church. This is a bad situation to say the least.

(Illustration of post Colonial)

~~This is one very good way of solving the problem~~ but the late J. Edgar Hoover ~~also~~ had something to say about this problem.

(Illustration of J. Edgar Hoover)

We as parents cannot afford to let our children choose everything they want to do. If we fed them in this manner, their diet would consist of ice cream and cake. Here then is where ~~the~~ the graveness of the situation lies. It does not mean we are to be complete dictators, but it does mean that we are to be shapers and molders of that character ~~that~~ which God has entrusted to our care.

This supervision applies not only in the religious training of children but in the secular aspects of life as well. We are living in a much more permissive society than the one in which many of us were raised. Our children today are faced with many more obstacles and temptations than ^{us} many of ^{us} had to face. This is due to the fact that our age is much more enlightened, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ and much more open. ~~Everything is much more open and~~ there is much more freedom to make decisions and choices that are both good and bad. So with all of this permissiveness and openness many parents are too busy with their own lives to raise their children properly and the raising of them then becomes the responsibility of society. And with this responsibility comes many problems as well.

(Illustration of disgruntled school teacher, (325 2400 illust.)

Talk with ~~many~~ school teachers, or anyone connecting with our schools and many of them will reiterate what this woman has said. Its sad, but it is true. So it all goes back to the home and what the children are receiving there. If they are instructed how to act and how to behave in

school and in public, then for the most part they will not disappoint their parents.

There are so many other areas of parental responsibility, we could not possibly hope to cover them in one sermon alone.

~~But there is~~ one final point that needs to be made, and this is directed particularly to all children and young people individually. This does not mean that you parents are ^{to} not listen, but for the next few moments I would like to address the young people here this morning.

Perhaps some of what I have said has turned you off. Perhaps much of what I have said you do not particularly agree with. But the biggest hassle all children, young people and parents have today, is in the area of parental authority. Many of us were raised in a home where we were expected to do what our parents said, without any backtalk. But many of us who are parents have decided that we would like our children to have some say so in matters of discipline. But unfortunately, too many young people have taken this as a license to do as they please and to disobey, and when this happens, then Mom and Dad begin to crack the whip and the young people rebel. I believe that all young people should again learn to respect the wisdom of parents which comes with age, and to learn that there are definite reasons for parental decisions. In order to be trusted by parents, you, the young people must ~~xxxxxx~~ prove worthy of this trust. This means that if you are expected to be in by 11:00, that you are in by that time. If you are expected to keep your room tidy, or to look after a few chores around the house, that you take care of these things without parental nagging. And if your parents say that there is something they do not want you to do, then you should be man or lady enough to accept their decision without causing World War III.

Now all of this brings us to the point where we realize that parents are "keepers", and sometimes I am sure they wonder just what they are "keepers" of. Are they apes? Or are they those wonderful gifts from God

known as children?

But also in all of this ~~xxxxxx~~ lies hidden the fact that children are "keepers" as well. They are the "keepers" of living the life that has been entrusted to them, and to ~~xxxx~~ be "keepers" of all that the family has given them in any way.

The ideal child or young person is something all parents would like to raise. This ~~xxxx~~ ideal has been called many things. By the young people who probably have a secret yearning inside of them to be like this ideal boy or girl, they have coined the ~~xx~~ phrase "A square." What is a ~~xxxx~~ square?

(Illustration of A square)

My prayer would be that all parents would be ~~xxxxxxx~~ "the keepers" of squares, and that all children and young people would become "the keepers" of a square in their lives. ~~But all of this is only possible through living each day in the strength that comes from God, through Jesus Christ in our lives. May all of our homes become the place where God is present; and Jesus Christ is evident in our lives, and where we each one become and are, "The Keepers."~~

At the very beginning of our Scripture we heard about the sons of the priest Eli, and at the very end of that Scripture, we heard about a boy named Samuel. "The sons of Eli were worthless men; they knew not the Lord." Here is the real secret of life. To be worth something we must "know the Lord." And the child Samuel, grew on, and was in favor both with the Lord and also with men."

Which will it be for you young people? Which will it be for our children? Do they know the Lord? Do all of us know the Lord? May all of our homes become the place where God is present, and where Jesus Christ is evident in our lives, and where we each one become and are, "The Keepers."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

PENTECOST JUNE 2, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, MINISTER
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH CONPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
JOEL MARTE, MARCIA MCBRIDE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "MORNING PRELUDE" READ
"ALLEGRETTO" LYNN

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 322 "THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION"

*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O LORD OUR GOD, GREAT, ETERNAL, WONDERFUL IN GLORY, WHO KEEPEST COVENANT AND PROMISE FOR THOSE THAT LOVE THEE WITH THEIR WHOLE HEART, WHO ART THE LIFE OF ALL, THE HELP OF THOSE THAT FLEE UNTO THEE, THE HOPE OF THOSE WHO CRY UNTO THEE, CLEANSE US FROM OUR SINS, AND FROM EVERY THOUGHT DISPLEASING TO THY GOODNESS. CLEANSE OUR SOULS AND BODIES, OUR HEARTS AND CONSCIENCES, THAT WITH A PURE HEART AND A CLEAR MIND, WITH PERFECT LOVE AND CALM HOPE, WE MAY VENTURE CONFIDENTLY AND FEARLESSLY TO PRAY UNTO THEE. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: ACTS 2: 1-21

HYMN No. 188 "HOLY SPIRIT, TRUTH DIVINE"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY: "ADAGIO SOSTENUTO"

KUHLAN

ANTHEM: "LEAD KINDLY LIGHT" - WOMEN'S CHORUS - DYKES
SERMON: "FILLED UP!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 193 "SPIRIT OF GOD"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RECESSIONAL"

DUNN

*CONGREGATION STANDING

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY MRS. ANN WILLIAMS IN MEMORY OF "HUSBAND" - WOODY. SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALLEN BOTACCHI, JOHN REDMAN, DAN BASKO, ROBERT KNAUER, CHARLES FENAR. DEACON AND MRS. PAUL RIEMER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DORR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY SHARON STAUFFER, LAUREL STAUFFER AND DEBBIE MCBRIDE.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. HERMAN CUSTEAD 525, MRS. HAMER BEATTY 624, PVT. KEITH TAIT, TRIPPLER ARMY HOSPITAL, APO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 963438.

WE WISH TO CONGRATULATE MR. & MRS. ALTEMUS - FORMER CHERYL (GILLILAND) ON A NEW BABY GIRL - NOW LIVING IN EVANS CITY.

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MRS. W. A. (GLADYS) WINTERS WHO PASSED AWAY THIS WEEK. AM

MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING. MR

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY - NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE HAVE

ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

ARC PICNIC * MEMORIAL PARK - MILLER SHELTER - 6:00 -

ON JUNE 14 - DESSERT AND BEVERAGE WILL BE FURNISHED.

MONDAY - JUNE 10 - 7:30 P.M. - MRS. ARTHUR HUBER WILL BE HERE FOR A TEACHERS TRAINING COURSE. ALL OFFICERS, TEACHERS AND INTERESTED PEOPLE ARE REQUESTED TO BE HERE.

TODAY IS PENTECOST - A TIME TO REJOICE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO INSPIRED THE FIRST APOSTLES AND WHO EMPOWERS THE CHURCH TODAY TO CARRY ON CHRIST'S WORK. A PAMPHLET "TIME TO REJOICE!" WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TODAY ALONG WITH THE BULLETIN FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL. IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST THE GENERAL SYNOD HAS ASKED CONGREGATIONS TO OBSERVE PENTECOST AS A TIME OF SPECIAL FOCUS ON OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION.

At the end of the service - 243

being filled up manifests self diff ways, diff peop/
Look at Apostles, see in their work diff exist in
manifesting H lives

to altogether diff person than Paul
but note just as effective in own way as Paul
Stephen diff Timothy Barnabas.

Look diff Matthew, John

John lived, worked JS, yet Gospels tell diff story
diff things went impart about him.

This good examp H. Sp working; each person unique
diff way.

So when speak H. Sp, many good Christians not completely
sware what being said.

Because too long they think of H Sp something myster-
ious and elusive.

This only evident minister, missionary lives
but what not really understood believers, is that
when become followers JS H, he become part of lives
then H Sp which really another manifestation of
H, begin work live our hearts.

This motivate us, move us to things right, proper
& good.

Small inner voice tells help others, resist evil,
live better way, that H Sp God in
we each here have H Sp working, living us,
H all we need make more real, more evident, is
recognize He there.

Just must seek follow one what tells do.

Other words, H. Sp. not something cannot compre-

hend it God within, seeking motivate do right

' be more instrument for Him

In case many ways, many peop diff ways

could name many this H.

But would like tell one man much used of God &

how H Sp came to work in his life.

(Illustration William Booth)

Today may be just another day many peop in many
diff churches.

Sadly enuf it day often overlook in haste observe
all secular days crept into church calendar.

This day soon over as each day draws close, but
perhaps need bow before God this AM & pray as man
prayed,

"O God, do it again. Do it again. Will even we
seek your Holy Spirit & let me be completely filled
Up, even as those men of old. O God, do it again!"

"Filled Up!"

Text: Acts 2:4q, "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit."

Today is Pentecost Sunday. The word Pentecost is from the Greek word, pentecoste or pentecostes, meaning fiftieth. The first Pentecost was 50 days after the Passover in 1930, and it fell on Sunday May 27th. Tradition has it that the events of Pentecost took place in the upper room in Jerusalem. In the 1st chapter they were all together in the upper room. He read in the 2nd chapter "they were all together." And while they are thus assembled there came the sound like the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all of the house where they were sitting. The word for this wind is pnea which means either air or breath. For may recognize it as being a part of the English word pneumatic, or pneumonia, which has to do with a disease of the respiratory organs. If we use the word in the sense that it is breath, then we can see that this rush of a mighty wind was the very "breath of God" that came upon them and into their midst.

And we read, "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. What took place was a phenomenon that has never been fully explained. Barclay passes it off as being some sort of unintelligible gibberish. David Alexander in *Handbook of the Bible* states, "Normally the Apostles difficult Galilean speech would have been hard to follow. Now to their astonishment, everyone in this mixed audience heard his own language being spoken." The Galilean dialect was uniquely identifiable. We can read of this in Luke's account of Peter's denial of Jesus, when a man accused Peter of

being with Jesus by stating, "Certainly this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." Peters speech had given him away. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ But if we really want to know what took place, we need to take the Scripture reference and read it for ourselves. The Scripture states very plainly that all of these ~~people~~ Jews who had been living in different parts of the then known world, and who all spoke different languages, were being spoken to by these Galileans in their own native tongue and not in Aramaic.

Barclay and all of the other interpreters who want to explain away the mighty power of God may do so. But I firmly believe that we need to accept that which we cannot completely understand as the sovereignty and majesty of Almighty God. Jesus said, "With God all things are possible," and this we need to believe and accept.

We need to understand what speaking in tongues really means because it has been misunderstood and is questioned very seriously today. When the Disciples were given this gift on Pentecost it was so that they could speak to others in the language that they understood. The speaking in tongues movement is still prevalent today in what we know as the Pentecostal churches. But much of this is not legitimate, because the people who supposedly are speaking in tongues are merely speaking a gibberish that someone supposedly interprets. Most people question the validity of this and with good reason. If we ask the question why we do not have speaking in tongues today, we need to also ask why we would need it? Would it prove anything this morning if I were to begin speaking to you in Latin or Greek? Of course not, and this is the answer. God does not want us to talk to you in anything except English, because this is what we speak and what we understand. There have been cases ^{OR RECORD KEPT} that ~~I have read about~~ where a person in a group of worshippers will suddenly ^{OR THEY STATE THERE ARE 400,000} begin to speak in French or Latin, and when it was checked into the person who spoke had never taken the language in school; and upon further checking it was learned that there were people ^{REMARKING THERE} ~~there~~ who could not speak English and thus the French or Latin was beneficial to them and they were able to hear

the Gospel in their native tongue.

The real purpose of this speaking in tongues was to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and not to show off how wonderful they were. What made it all possible was the indwelling of God's Holy Spirit, and they were people who were literally filled with the Spirit. In fact they were so filled, they were accused of being drunk. So which later gave them the answer that it was only 3:00 AM and impossible for them to be drunk. He went on to explain that this was the indwelling of the Holy Spirit as promised by Jesus Christ.

Stanley Jones once pointed out, "Christmas is the Festival of God with us; Pentecost is God in us." To which he adds the question, "Is God more with us than in us?" which is a very good question, for if God is more in us ~~than with us~~ then we can be literally filled up. Filled with the Spirit. But we must remember that we cannot fill ourselves, this can only be done by God. So then we must put ourselves in the way of being filled.

But when we talk of being filled up with the Spirit, we must realize that this is not just one set thing that happens to everyone. Being filled is what the Spirit manifests itself in different ways in different people. Look at the Apostles and see in them the vast differences that existed in their ministries and lives. Peter was an altogether different person than Paul. But Peter was just as effective in his own way as Paul. Stephen was different from Timothy or Barnabas. Look at the vast differences between Matthew, ~~Mark~~, and ~~John~~ John. Each of them lived and worked with Jesus and yet their Gospels tell an altogether different story of Jesus and the things they wanted to focus about Him. This is a good example of how the Holy Spirit works in each person in a unique and different way.

So when we speak of the Holy Spirit, many good Christians are not completely aware of what is being said, because for too long they have thought of the Holy Spirit as something mysterious and elusive that is only evident ~~in the lives of great men~~

in the lives of preachers and missionaries. But ~~that is not really under-~~
~~standing~~

And by believers, is that when we become followers of Jesus Christ, He
then becomes a part of our lives, and the Holy Spirit which is really, and
only another manifestation of God, ~~then~~ begins to live within our hearts
and motivates us and moves us to do those things that are right and proper
and good. That small inner voice that tells you to help others, to be
resist evil, to live in a better way, that is the Holy Spirit of God in
you. As each of us here this morning have the Holy Spirit working and living
in us, and all we need to do to make Him more real and more evident in our
lives is to recognize He is there, and seek to follow some of what He tells
us to do. In other words the Holy Spirit is not something we cannot com-
prehend, but it is God within us seeking to motivate us to do right and to
be more of an instrument for Him.

The Holy Spirit has come to many people in many different ways. We
could name numerous people this morning, but I would merely like to tell
you of a man who ^{has} used of God, and how he came to have the Holy Spirit
work in his life.

(Illustration of William Booth)

Today may be just another day to many people in many different churches.
Sadly enough it is a day that we often overlook in our haste to observe all
of the other regular days that have crept into our church calendars.
Pentecost will soon be over just as ~~the~~ each day draws to a close. But
perhaps we need to bow before God this morning and pray as that man prayed,
"O God, do it again. Do it again. Fill over me with your Holy Spirit and
let me be completely filled up even as those men of old. O God, do it
again."

... church; ... in the love of God; with the love of our Lord.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

TRINITY SUNDAY JUNE 9, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, MINISTER
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
JODIE MARTE, MARCIA MCBRIDE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "PRELUDE IN E" SERGISSON
"THE HOUR OF WORSHIP" COFFMAN

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 185 "ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME"

*ACSCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "GRACIOUS GOD, FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOU HAVE PROMISED TO RECEIVE US WHEN WE COME TO YOU. WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED. WE HAVE DISOBEYED YOUR LAW. WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU OR OUR NEIGHBORS AS WE SHOULD. FORGIVE US, O GOD, AND GRANT THAT WE MAY LIVE AND SERVE YOU IN NEWNESS OF LIFE; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: ESTHER 4

HYMN No. 191 "BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "OFFERTORY" WELLS

BAPTISM: ERIC CHRISTOPHER HOLLEFREUND - SON OF
MR. & MRS. THOMAS HOLLEFREUND

PIANO DUET: "SALUT D'AMOUR"

ELGAR

KITTY FEDER AND MARILYN STEPHENSON

SERMON: "WHO KNOWS?"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

SINGS

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 280 "BLEST BE THE TIE THAT

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO" BROADHEAD

*CONGREGATION STANDING

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY CLARA AND FLORENCE SHAKELY IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES". SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, JOHN SNOW, MONT MACKINNEY, JAMES MALONEY AND STEVE VARGO.

ELDER ROBERT TAIT WILL BE AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY BARBARA VARGO AND KAREN KENNEDY.

IF YOU WISH TO HAVE CREDIT FOR CHURCH SCHOOL AND A PERFECT ATTENDANCE PIN - BE SURE TO SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX UNDER CORRECT DATE.

TODAY - WE NEED A COUPLE OF MEN TO HELP SET UP FOUR TABLES IN THE UNDERCROFT FOR THE TEACHERS TRAINING COURSE ON MONDAY NIGHT.

MONDAY - 7:30 - GOSPEL OF LIGHT TEACHER'S COURSE - MRS. ARTHUR HOUSER WILL BE HERE FOR A TEACHERS TRAINING COURSE. ALL OFFICERS, TEACHERS AND INTERESTED PEOPLE ARE REQUESTED TO BE HERE.

FRIDAY - 6:00 - ARC PICNIC IN THE PARK - MEMORIAL PARK - MILLER SHELTER - DESSERT AND BEVERAGE WILL BE FURNISHED - DAN BOSKO'S IN CHARGE. ARTEC

HOSPITALIZED - MRS. HERMAN CUSTEAD AND MRS. HOMER BEATTY.

TODAY - WE HAVE NEW LIVING FERNS ON THE ALTAR - WHICH WERE PLACED BY DONN E. MILLER AS A LIVING MEMORIAL TO HIS "MOTHER" MRS. DOROTHY KAUS MILLER. DONN HAS DONE SO MUCH FOR OUR CHURCH, AND NOW HE NEEDS OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS, AND HOPE HE WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO WORK SOON FROM A SERIOUS BACK INJURY. HIS ADDRESS IS: 6282 BARIADOS AVE., CYPRESS, CALIF. 90630.

NEW PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR FOR THE ARC CLASS ARE AVAILABLE. YOU MAY PICK THEM UP IN THE OFFICE OR FROM AN OFFICER OF THE CLASS. DON'T FORGET TO CALL THE BRUCE McBRIDE'S 283-8980 NOW FOR RESERVATIONS - FAMILY CAMPING - AUG. 9, 10, 11 - OPEN TO CHURCH.

the group has produced, with a view to the

1. The first group of people who are interested in the study of the history of the United States are the people who are interested in the history of the United States.

RE.

[illegible][illegible]

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[illegible]

1. *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 12228) •
2. *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 12228) •
3. *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 12228) •

... ..

sal zzzzking obe;

These results suggest that the use of a single, standardized, and validated instrument to assess the impact of a program may be a more effective way to measure the impact of a program than the use of multiple, non-standardized, and non-validated instruments.

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

... ..

...the

Ans: "Then Herodias told me to return answer to father, "This- not that in the King's palace you will escape any one other than all the other Jews. For if you see silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise 'twa the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the King- for such a time as this?"

It is understood that the following is based on our Scripture for this morning, we used to go over some of the background of the first 3 chapters. The ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ father was an orphan who ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ had been raised by a Jewish priest named Aaron. Father and Aaron were Jews. The King of Persia King Darius was King Xerxes I which was his Greek name, he had thrown several banquets and during one of the banquets he had sent his servants to have the queen make a public appearance before the people. Queen Esther was a very beautiful woman and the king wanted to show her off in all her glory. But the queen refused to come forward from her chambers and the king was very angry.

So this night he called upon his advisers to inquire as to what he should do. They advised him to write up a decree stating that Queen Veridia was banished from her position and that another queen would be chosen in her stead. So all of the beautiful young ladies in the kingdom were brought to the king in lines which he was to choose a new queen.

When these young ladies were father. Father found favor in the sight of the king and she was selected to be the new queen. The king did not see her ugliness and Nerleesi had instructed her not to reveal it.

In the court of the king there xxx were two conspirators who plotted to slay the king. Nerleesi who was at the palace and not at the king's gate, gave father this message which she relayed to the king and the king had them arrested. Thus Nerleesi had saved the life of the king.

King Masmurus appointed a man named Nanan as his Prime Minister. Now Nanan had the control over and above all of the princes of the court of the king. All of the princes and all of the servants of the king were commanded by the king to bow to Nanan. But he said that Nerleesi did not bow to Nanan. The king's servants who were at the gate where Nerleesi sat, came to his court this and questioned why he did not bow to Nanan. Nerleesi merely answered that he was a Jew.

So these servants went to Nanan and told him of this and Nanan became furious. Now Nanan in his mind, was not content to merely have Nerleesi slain, and thus he devised a scheme whereby all of the Jews would be killed. He plotted to have the xxx active Jewish nation in Israel killed. Now according to a popular conception of that time, and this is of Babylonian origin, there was a certain time and place to do everything. The Jews of Mesopotamia knew this very well. So Nanan had late sent a messenger when this destruction of the Jews was to take place.

The calendar at that time ran from spring until the next spring. This was because the ritual of Samover took precedence over everything else. The year thus began in the middle of March which was called the month of Nisan. So in the month of Nisan or Nizakhata the middle of March to the middle of April, Jews were sent for the destruction of the Jews. The day for this destruction fell to the 13th day of the 12th month which was called Adar, and was from mid February to mid March.

Then Nanan went to the king with the news that a certain race of people

which he did not have, had its own laws and did not observe the royal diets, and he promised the king he would pay 10,000 talents of silver or about 40 million dollars into the treasury if the king would give the order to have these people killed. The king naturally not wanting to have enemies within his kingdom agrees to their destruction, but he tells Ahasuerus he can keep the money he would have donated to the treasury as a reward for getting rid of these people. To show his good faith he gives him his signet ring as a pledge of his faith in Ahasuerus.

Thus we arrive at the point where our scripture began this morning where Mordecai is sitting at the stage gate in sackcloth and ashes. Esther learns of this and sends a servant to Mordecai with clothing, and he inquires why he is doing this. Mordecai tells the servant to tell Esther the story, of what is to take place, and since she is the queen to tell the king of this gross injustice. Esther sends the servant back to Mordecai to tell him that even she is not permitted to appear before the king unless he calls for her.

Mordecai tells them the answer they are to give to Esther. He says, "What is not in the king's palace you will receive any more than all the other Jews. For if you hear silence at ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ such a time as this, relief and deliverance will come for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this."

And it is from this hearing of Mordecai that Esther sees her time come in this darkness and she sends word back to him that she will go before the king whether he says farewell and she says, "If I perish, I perish."

People have questioned whether this is a true story, and whether it deals with anything probable. Most of the questioning has been because throughout the 12 brief chapters of the book, not once is the name of God used. But if you read the book with the express purpose of trying to see what inspired message God is trying to impart, then I believe you will see the purpose of the book. Even throughout all of this story is the knowledge that God was laying a hand in the lives of each of the characters involved.

If you ask if I believe it really happened, the answer is yes I do.

Archaeological findings have confirmed not only the story of people mentioned in the story, but many other things that show it is actual history.

In one commentary I read the question, "Did Israel did not how low to mean, to which it did not give an answer. But if we know Jewish history well enough we know that a real Jew would not how low to anyone except his. This was in obedience to the commandments.

If we look at each part of this story we can see the working of God. First the queen was put away because of her refusal to do the King's thing. Then they came together and what is the? Of all things she is a Jewess, one of God's chosen people. Then who is it who saved the life of the King? Another Jew. Then we can see that God is working in the affairs of men even though we cannot always see it.

Recently we have been hearing an awful lot about Satan and demons.

All this story is a good example of the working of Satan in the lives of people. Satan had stirred his way into the heart of man, and man was determined to destroy the people of Israel. Now why would Satan want to do this? Well, for the simple reason that from Egypt was to come the Messiah, the deliverer of God's people. Thus if Satan could thwart this plan, if he could stop it in its bud, then God could not overcome Satan. But we see in each instance that God is in control and that he had placed Esther and Mordecai at this point in time to be his women and men of the hour. The question that Mordecai poses to Esther is one that should make all of us ponder our relationship to God, when he asks, "And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Look at the history of the Israelites right down to our present day. Starting with Noah as the first one to be the man of the hour in delivering his people. Then Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Saul, David, Solomon and on and on. Time after time, people have been inspired by Satan to destroy God's people, but time after time they have been thwarted. In our own day it

IF ONLY GOD HAD WANTED - IT WOULD BE DONE
UP THE
HORN

When we put it in this light, we realize that we each have a set time and a set purpose for being in existence. You are not an accident upon God's landscape. All are here because God wants you to be here. Therefore we need to determind just what it is that God has in store for us. The answer is that

~~xxxxxx~~ to the question "Who knows?", is that God knows. So then we need to ask "For what purpose are we here?" The answer of course is for us to love God in doing this. That course of God is proper and commendable, and let His speak to us individually as to why we are here.

We are not to be just attenders of a church, but we are to be workers and builders of God's kingdom, and this we can only determine about we do by reading His command. Jesus said, "He have not chosen me, but I have chosen you." By this we know that we are placed at this moment, at this time, in this locale by the will of Almighty God. "Who knoweth?" God knows, and it is only by abiding in Him this life through Jesus Christ as our Lord and savior that we can have His answers to our needs, and His great plans of life. Let His voice command in your life and then you too will know.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God,
who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 16, 1974
FATHER'S DAY

REV. RALPH C. LINK, MINISTER
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
SAM FRY, ELLEN MASTER - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "PRELUDE IN E" BACH
"ALLEGRETTO" LYNES

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 314 "HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION"

*ACSCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O GOD, WHO HAS GIVEN US THE POWER
TO DISCERN GOOD FROM EVIL, HEAR US AS WE CONFESS OUR SINS.
WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE FAILED THEE AND OURSELVES. REGARDLESS
OF HOW GOOD WE HAVE BEEN, WE REALIZE THAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN
THE KIND OF PERSON THAT YOU WANT US TO BE. SOMETIMES OUR
RELIEF IN OUR OWN GOODNESS HAS PREVENTED US FROM SEEING
OUR SINFULNESS. WE HAVE FELT THAT ACKNOWLEDGING YOU HAS
MADE US BETTER THAN OTHERS. OPEN OUR EYES, O LORD, TO
OUR HIDDEN SINS, AS WE MAKE A SINCERE AND HUMBLE CONFESSION
IN THE NAME OF CHRIST. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS."

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: ESTHER 6

HYMN No. 198 "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREEN)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE
OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "ADAGIO SOSTENUTO" SCOTTY
SOLD: CYNTHIE SYBERT

SERMON: "GOD'S NO-DOZE!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 292 "ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RECESSIONAL" D'AUREL

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MR. & MRS. DAVE CURTIS IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES"

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *DON KINGSLEY, DARYL

TAIT, JOHN BREMER, GARY FENAR.

DEACON AND MRS. MIKE NAZARUK WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. MARGARET COVERT
AND FAULA STEPHENSON.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. HERMAN CUSTEAD, MRS. MARTHA

DEWEESKI, DONH, MRS. JUAN VOGEL - PRES. HOSP. PITTS.

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY BE SURE AND SIGN

THE GUEST REGISTER ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE SANCTUARY.

DON'T FORGET TO GET IN TOUCH WITH MR. & MRS. BRUCE

MCBRIDE 283-8980 FOR RESERVATIONS IF YOU PLAN TO

GO CAMPING AUG. 9, 10, 11 - THIS FAMILY CAMPING DATE

IS OPEN TO THE ENTIRE CHURCH.

ARC - PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE

PLEASE PICK YOUR COPY UP.

THE RESPONSE TO THE TAPES HAS BEEN TREMENDOUS - MANY

HAVE BEEN PLACED AS MEMORIALS, OTHERS BOUGHT TO BE

PLACED IN HOMES OF SHUT-INS. MEMORIALS WILL BE

PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR CONFIRMATION CLASS AND/OR

CONFIRMATION CAMP?

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 185.

CONGRATULATIONS! TO TERRY MCGARRAH - HE IS NOW

OFFICIALLY SIGNED WITH THE PIRATES. - GOOD LUCK.

THEOS PROGRAM COMING TO BUTLER. THERE IS A DEFINITE

NEED FOR A SPIRITUALLY ENRICHED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

FOR THE WIDOWED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CHURCH.

LOOKING TOWARD THIS GOAL, AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL GROUP

CALLED THEOS IS BEING ORGANIZED IN BUTLER. IT WILL

BE SPONSORED BY ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WITH THE

CO-OPERATION OF MANY CHURCHES. FIRST MEETING JUNE 20,

AT 8:00 P.M. ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH BASEMENT.

FOR THE 1974 FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Very peop he deliberate set destroy, very easily 2/
end up destroy him.

U may read remain portion book find out happen to
H. an.

Only 10 chaps & fascinating reading

Here we confront unique set events

wh start out simple plan exterminate pest to 1
involv & ward off others of group become loathsome,
now thickened into plot of mystery intrigue

When we analyse events this story we C plainly hand
of Al. God in backgr, using simple means accomplish
overthrow Satan & evil against His peop.

At beg. chap we C something spectacular we prone
overlook completely.

1st vs reads, "On that night the king could not sleep
King could not sleep.

How simple, yet how profound

Most instances, most peop's minds not say much
When look sleeplessness of king doesn't have much
effect on us.

Here an indiv wealth, power, position, prestige,
& he afflicted common malady effect many his peop.

We tempted say, "So what?"

Is it coincidence?

Is merely monarch with insomnia?

I think not. I see in this examp how God will step
into life of person & cause His plan be set in motion

I sure all seen commercial TV advertise pills when
drive no get sleepy, No-Doze.

Here an examp God's No-Doze.

It not pill or tablet,

It merely God step in & disturb person sleep

When we contemplate that God does not need always do
large things, spectacular things accomplish purpose,
we cannot help be overawed His power & majesty.

Dr. Murray write poem about this,

(Illustration power of God)

There may be emps & rulers, may always be kings

such as king in Persia time of Est.

But rulers & kings come & go, but always there

will be x God.

& God will always step in to work His purpose
out.

G has disturbed sleep of peop too numerous mention
in each instance there was set meaning, purpose that
was shown thru lives of peop involved.
(Illustration of woman letting go)

"God's No-Doze!"

Esther 6:1,

"On that night the king could not sleep; and he gave
orders to bring the book of memorable deeds, the
chronicles, and they were read before the king."

(Illustration of church members trying to reform man
This good examp Rob. Burns quote, "The best laid
plans of mice and men often go awry."

Scrap read morn, nother examp of this

Last Sun we look plot Haman destroy all Jews,
& today we look what transpire after Haman set plan
in motion

We read king unable sleep, decide read, make sleepy
book he chose read, book events happening kingdom,
like read reminisce scrapbook.

From book servant read incident slip king mind

This involve Mord. get info to king about plot

Kill king, king kill 2 perpetrators

The king ask servants if Mord reward for this,

They tell no

Now Haman came court early that morn

King ask who there, told Haman

King call in Haman, Prime Minister to conference

Haman stand before king, king ask,

"What shall be done to the man whom the king de-
lights to honor?"

Haman impressed with self-importance, naturally im-
pressed with self, thinks king means him.

He say self, "Whom would the king delight to honor
more than me?"

As he give king instructions what he think should be
done, think all along honors belong to him.

Can U imagine shock Haman felt, & sense disappoint
when he discover man Mord?

Imagine that? Mord the Jew, only pers in king
court who no bow to him.

This ~~affront~~ nerve to ignore Prime Min. Haman

This lesson remind us story Js tell follow about
banquet & take low seat, perhaps be honored

This exact position Haman find self this time.

Poor Haman can only swallow pride see Mord honored

When read end chap Haman go home mourn fact he no

onger #1 man in kingdom, he not exclusive VIP

Wife & advisers instead sympathize, rub salt in
wounds, predict perhaps little world tumble around
ears.

Here common examp of this.

3/

I say common because all it takes is that person
let God work his/her life

(mean try see just what God try say/do thru us.

(Illustration newsboy San Fran)

God too powerful 4 any 1 to beat or best

We need not only know His sovereignty/majesty/
supremacy over all, but need seek ~~xxxxxxx~~ Him
in our lives.

We need let God give each us His No-Doze.

By this I mean we need make selves available Him
to make use of us,

whether middle night, or middle day.

If we should find selves some nite rub ~~xxx~~

elbows ancient king Persia, in that we cannot

sleep, perhaps God try tell us something or want
us do something.

We need attune lives to God & let Him show us in
whatever way He wishes what He wants us do.

Seek God all things, but to remain alert & awake,
take God's No-Doze.

"God's No-Doze!"

Text: Esther 6:1, "On that night the king could not sleep; and he gave orders to bring the book of memorable deeds, the chronicles, and they were read before the king."

(Illustration of John Smith & church members trying to scare him into reform)
Now this is a good example of what the poet Robert Burns once said when he penned the immortal words, "The best laid plan of mice and men often go awry." The scripture we read this morning ~~xxx~~ is another example of the same thing. Last Sunday we looked at the plot of Haman to destroy all of the Jews, and we are looking today at what transpired shortly after Haman had set his plan into motion.

We read where the king, unable to sleep, decided to do some reading to perhaps make himself sleepy. The book he chose to have read to him was the book of events of what had been happening in his kingdom. It was sort of like reading and reminiscing with an old scrapbook. From this book is read an incident that had slipped his mind. This involved Mordecai getting the information to him that there was a plot underfoot to kill him, and thus he was able to have the two perpetrators of that plot arrested and hung. The king in reminiscing over this inquires of his servants if Mordecai had been properly rewarded for this. The servants who were aware of all that went on in the palace inform the king that nothing had been done to reward Mordecai.

Now it so happened that Haman had come to ~~the~~ court early that morning, and the king inquired of his servants who was in the court so that he could check into this matter and properly reward Mordecai. The servants answer that it is the Prime Minister Haman, and the king ~~sends for him~~ summons him to a conference. Haman stands before the king and the king asks, "What shall be done to the man whom the king delights to honor?" Haman who is already impressed with his self-importance, naturally thinks the king is referring to him. And he remarks to himself, "Whom would the king delight to honor more than me?" Thus he gives the king instructions as to what should be done, thinking all along that these honors are going to be heaped upon him.

But can you imagine the shock that Haman must have felt, and the sense of utter disappointment, when the king informs him that these honors are to be bestowed upon Mordecai? Imagine that? Mordecai the Jew, the only person in the king's court who does not and will not bow to him, Haman the Prime Minister of the kingdom?

This lesson would remind us of the time when Jesus was speaking to his followers and he told them that when they went to a banquet, they should not sit at the head of the table, but they should instead take a place of low rank. Then if they perchance are to be an honored guest, the host will send for them and have them seated in a place of prominence. This would save them embarrassment from sitting in a place of distinction and then perhaps being asked to move to a lower rank. And this is the exact position in which Haman found himself at this time.

So poor Haman could do nothing else but swallow his pride and make the necessary arrangements to have Mordecai honored in the very manner that he had prescribed to take place. We then read at the end of this chapter of Haman returning to his home, mourning the fact that he was no longer the number 1 man of the king, and that he was not the exclusive VIP in the sight of all the other king's servants. His wife and advisers instead of sympathizing with him and soothing his injured pride, rub salt into his wounds by predicting that this episode could very well be the beginning of the end for Haman. They advise him that perhaps ~~his~~ his little world was about to come crumbling down around his ears. That the very people he deliberately set out to destroy and wipe from the face of the earth, could very easily end up destroying him. You may read for yourselves the remaining portion of this story and see what does happen to Haman. This book is made up of 10 short chapters and it is rather fascinating reading.

But here we are confronted with a rather unique set of events. What started out to be a very simple plan to exterminate a pest to one individual and to ward off others from this group becoming as loathsome, has now thickened into a plot of mystery and intrigue. But when we analyse the events of

this story we can see very plainly the hand of Almighty God in the background, using very simple means to accomplish the overthrow of Satan and evil against His people.

At the very beginning of this chapter we see something so simple and unspectacular that we are prone to overlook it completely. The first verse reads, "On that night the king could not sleep." The king could not sleep. How simple and yet how profound. In most instances and in the minds of most people this does not say much. When we look at the sleeplessness of a king it doesn't have too much effect on us. Here is an individual with wealth and power, with position and with prestige, and he is afflicted with a common malady that probably effected many of his people. And with this we are tempted to say, "So what? Is it coincidence? Is it merely an example of a monarch with insomnia?"

I think not. I see in this an example of how God will step into the life of a person and cause his plan to be set in motion. I am sure we have all seen the commercial on television that advertises the pills that a person can take when driving to stay awake, called No-Doze. Well, here is an example of God's No-Doze. It isn't a pill or a tablet, it is merely God stepping in and disturbing a person's sleep. When we contemplate that God does not need to always do large and spectacular things to accomplish His purpose, we cannot help but be overawed at His power and majesty. A Dr. Murray wrote a poem about this and he wrote,

(Illustration of The Power of God)

There may be emperors and rulers, there may always be kings such as the king of Persia in the time of Esther. But rulers and kings come and go, but there always will be God. And God will always step in to work His purpose out. God has disturbed the sleep of people too numerous to mention. In each instance there was a set meaning and a set purpose that was shown through the lives of the people involved.

(Illustration of woman letting go)

Here is a common example of this. I say common, because all that it takes is that a person let God work in his or her life. It means trying to see just what God is trying to say or do through us.

(Illustration of newsboy in San Francisco)

God is too powerful for any one to ever beat. We need not only acknowledge His sovereignty, His majesty, and His supremacy over all, but we need to seek Him in our lives. We need to let God give each of us His No-Doze. By this I mean we need to make ourselves available to Him to make use of us whether it be the middle of the day or the middle of the night. If we should find ourselves some night rubbing elbows with the ancient king of Persia, in that we cannot sleep, perhaps God may be trying to tell us something or want us to do something. We need to attune our lives to God and let Him show us in whatever way He wishes what He wants us to do.

Seek God in all things, but to remain alert and awake take God's No-Doze.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 30, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAM FRY, ELLEN MASTER - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 7:30 P.M.
PRELUDE: "PRELUDE IN A MAJOR" FERRY

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #443 "O BEAUTIFUL FOR SPACIOUS SKIES"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*INVOCATION

RESPONSIVE READING No. 72 PAGE 619

HYMN No. 439 "GOD BLESS OUR NATIVE LAND"

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

OFFERING OFFERTORY: "PASTORALE" BRUCH

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: JOHN LAVERNE PENROD - SON OF
MR. & MRS. HARRY PENROD.
SOLO: "I'LL WALK WITH GOD" BY BRODSZKY - SANCY COTTAGE
PIANO ACCOMPANIST: DEB MELTON

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 20: 1-21

SERMON: "ONE NATION UNDER WHICH GOD?"

*GLORIA PATRI

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION FOR OUR NATION AND OUR PEOPLE

*HYMN No. 63 "OUR GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST"

*BENEDICTION

*THREEFOLD AMEN

*POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO"

MALLARD

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MR. & MRS. CHARLES FENAR IN MEMORY OF FAN PFLOUGH.
SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALVIN TAIT, JAMES
MCCLYMONDS, MIKE NAZARUK AND GEORGE PFLOUGH.
DEACON AND MRS. CHARLES FENAR WILL BE OFFICIAL GREETERS
AT THE DOOR TODAY REPRESENTING COUNCIL.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. JOHN REDMAN
AND PAULA STEPHENSON.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. VIRGINIA BEATTY, MR. W. A. WINTERS,
MR. WILMER PEARL.

AUGUST 25 IS OPEN FOR MEMORIAL FLOWERS AS WELL AS FOUR
SUNDAYS IN SEPT. - 1, 15, 22, 29 AND SOME OTHER DATES
THROUGH OUT THE PERIOD OF JULY THRU DEC. - IF YOU
WANT A SPECIAL SUNDAY - LET US KNOW NOW.

DUE TO THE HOLIDAY WEEKEND THERE WILL BE NO COUNCIL
MEETING IN JULY - NOTICE WAS IN THE NEWSLETTER OF
JUNE - NEXT MEETING WILL BE IN AUGUST.

ACCORDING TO WORD RECEIVED - REV. AND MRS. LEE
NEUHAUS AND THEIR SONS KURT AND JON WILL BE VISITING
IN BUTLER LATE IN JULY AT OUR HOME. WE ARE PLANNING
AN OPEN HOUSE ON JULY 31 FROM 7-9 P.M. SO THAT ANY OF
YOU WHO WANT TO SAY "HELLO" CAN DO SO. LEE AND KATHY
ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS CHANCE TO SEE MANY OF
THEIR FRIENDS HERE. -- GENE AND MARILYN STEPHENSON,
NEXT SUNDAY - HOLY COMMUNION - NEW MEMBERS WILL BE
TAKEN INTO THE CHURCH AT THIS TIME.

REMEMBER - CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC - ALAMEDA PARK -
SHELTER CLOSEST SWIMMING POOL - WED. JULY 24 AT 6:00
P. M. - SPONSORED BY THE LAY LIFE AND WORK COMMITTEE.

BAPTISM THIS AFTERNOON - 2:00 P.M. - 8 YR. OLD SON - RYAN
OF MR. & MRS. JOHN STEVENSON AND THEIR DAUGHTER -
KELLY JO ANN STEVENSON. MICHELLE RENE WILLIAMS -
DAUGHTER OF MR. & MRS. JOHN WILLIAMS.

CONFIRMATION CLASS CAMP REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE IN TODAY
\$20.00 WILL BE PAID BY THE CHURCH AND \$15.00 IS TO
ACCOMPANY THE REGISTRATION FROM THE PARENTS. IF YOU
BY ANY CHANCE FORGOT TO BRING THIS WITH YOU TODAY -
PLEASE LEAVE US KNOW IN THE OFFICE.

Worship Committee June 1974

From all this can draw strange parallels USA
Jewelry, Russian men women driven here by various
cruel taskmasters, Holland, England, Germany
I often asked class, "Why pilgrims come America?"
A. He answered, "to worship God in their own way,
and like other people do the same."

He partially right,
it was to worship God as they pleased, in freedom
this country founded on this freedom
1 of main principles of founding

Look at hist. of nation see few Moses among us
Men like, Wash, Jeff, Franklin, Lincoln some few
Men like these led out of wilderness relig oppress
Inequality was, inequality races so on
Men who looked God as savior or creator all mankind
Men who strove diligent incorporate into constit
safeguard all peop, to protect against others
making as slaves.

Have seen country rise world power less 200 yrs
since set standards unsurpassed in production
of everything from more corn per acre, to cancer
nations reached out all direct facts of daring
exploration

Nation came moon back, nation blessed more wealth
than any other nation in history of world

But alas, like ancient Is, we made golden calves in
past few generations

have slowly, surely turned backs upon creator
we have said, "these are thy gods O America,
which brought thee up out of the land of the un-
known we have bowed to them and worshiped them

If look around can see them
has become such ingrained thing in nation, it has
reached grass roots level, ~~no one~~ ~~no one~~
no one of us can point finger & say, "thou art
the god," as Nathan once pointed and said

we all have own little gods in our lives,
perhaps some more than others, but all have them

these gods wealth, power,
gold banks, building loans, houses buildings, apts
gold stocks, bonds, investments, land develop
gold iron, steel, concrete buying, selling

do power equip, tractors, cars, motor bikes, gold
gold tents, campers, trailers, swimming pools ~~gold~~
gold, sex, liquor, tobacco, other pleasures, wives
~~NOT GOD IN SELF, BUT WE GIVE PLEASURES.~~

"The Nation Under Which I Lived"

Exodus 32:1-6,
"and they said, 'These are thy gods O Israel,
which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.'
Exodus 32:3, "Thou shalt have no other gods before
me."

For scrip read giving 10 C

few short chaps later read disobed of Isrites
chap 32 & read of peop impatience,
also of discontent
as they wait Moses return Mt. Sinai

God miraculously delivered from hands of Egyptians
by crossing Red Sea.

Immediately in new land, only there 3 day,
have difficulty.

unquenched bitter water, cried against Moses
bringing them there

Moses call on God, God shows tree,
he casts bit water, water become sweet.

thus should know God all sufficient for needs
they now encamped foot Mt. Sinai

Moses converse God, not only 10 C

but instructions build ark covenant & 4th C

In their impatience, turned completely against G
and Aaron make golden calf from rings, etc

had no god could see & must see he assured he with
them

"After Aaron make idol they say, (EXOD)
& this declare give evidence forgot which God
brought up from E.

If read on this chap see God angry, would destroy,
but Moses intercede & name of God not tarnished
in Egypt elsewhere

Moses return, melt calf, put in water, make drink
Call, "Who on Lord's Side?"

these ordered slay unbeliever, this they did

even after Moses again go up Mt. Sinai with God,
God promise blot out names from his book those
stood against him.

Also promise visit them in wilderness wanderings
in 5th vs read, "and the Lord plagued the peop
because they made the calf which Aaron made."
we see from this, must be punishment for sin

We have time for everything but God. 4/
We are so wrapped up in our little worlds, we give God 2nd place.

Our priorities are all twisted up. It is my need wants 1st, & if there is any time left then I may consider God.

Ha writing on wall my friends,
we need either change course in nation or we doomed (Illustration of Teymbee)

Just read recently how 100M child, women, men died Africa, cause we no figure way send relief.
This disgrace to supposedly Xpian nation.

Congress deliberates at snails pace, while country falls in ruin.

State Legislature cannot agree on anything for months & then passes 2 momentous decisions in 1 wk
We now have stae insect, Rifeily, & it illegal to streak.

Tremendous work indeed.

we become indiff needs own peop as well as world,
We like woman on TV commerc several yrs ago with headache, becomes upset mother, yells, "I can do it myself."

We have done this with God,
"We can do it ourselves God, let us alone, we Do not need you."

We are to be pitied for we are indeed "One nation under God, but which one?"

Let us begin U & I, begin with this service to have a daily prayer vigil to ask God for His help in our nation.

Let us ask Him to intervene in the lives of our leaders & move them to do rite.

Let us pray for pres, whether dislike or not,
" " " " senators, govs, all leaders.
(Illustration of "Thou shalt have no other gods before me.") ~~which shall have no other gods before me.~~

But the promise is also there as well,
"IF MY PEOP WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME, SHALL HUMBLE THEMSELVES, AND PRAY, AND SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN, AND HEAL THEIR AND."

All these golden calves America bowing to, 3,
more more each year.

Finally reached point where group peop in name of protecting us from other peop used all ~~xxxxx~~ crooked means to insure we protected.

Thus stinking mess we call WATERGATE

Others using this situation to smear and besmirch whatever vestige of respectability the Presidency has left.

Purpose seems to be to overlook or forget other administrations & shady dealings on the other side of the fence.

All of this proves that Mr. Nixon, Mr. Johnson or Mr. Kennedy are no better nor no worse than any of us.
All of this has happened because we are too concerned with our own interests, our own greed and desire for all of the things that men & adminis can give us.

If we disbelieve this, only need ask,

"Why inflation?"

Because dealers, buyers, sellers all kinds want makemost possibly can.

Why high rents, mortgages, interest rates?

Because investors big & little want most returns on investments even at the expense of the poor, the aged, the widowed.

We can question all areas of society & answers all same, "THESE ARE THY GODS O AMERICA, WHICH BROUGHT THEE UP OUT OF THE LAND OF THE UNKNOWN."

And what does God say to all of this & thru all of this?

He still say today as then, "THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME."

We once prided selves on being, "One Nation under God," & took so much pride in it we added it to pledge of allegiance.

But must ask because of conditions in nation, "One Nation Under God," BUT which God?

Is it God of hatred, power, anger, jealousy, wrath, wealth, greed, sex, overindulgence in food, drink & drugs, is it god of senators, legislators, govs, or presidents?

We have come to point we begrudge God the little time we give to God.

"One Nation Under Which God?"

Text: Exodus 32:4b, "and they said, These are thy gods O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt."
Exodus 20:3, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

For our Scripture we read the story of the giving of the Ten Commandments, but a few short chapters later we learn of the disobedience of the Israelites. In the 32nd chapter of Exodus we read of the impatience ~~impatience~~ of the people, as well as their discontent. They were awaiting the return of Moses from Mt. Sinai.

God had miraculously delivered the people from the hands of their harsh taskmasters, the Egyptians, by the crossing of the Red Sea. After they had been brought into this new land they had immediately encountered difficulty in following God completely. ~~XX~~ They had been in the wilderness only 3 days and they encountered bitter water, and they cried against Moses for leading them there. So Moses called upon God and God showed him a tree which he cast into the waters and they became sweet. Thus they knew that God was sufficient for all their needs. But now they were encamped at the foot of Mt. Sinai and Moses was taking such a long time to come back.

Moses was in conversation with God getting not only the Ten Commandments, but instructions about the building of the Ark of the Covenant. But in their impatience they turned completely against God and had Aaron make them a golden ~~xxx~~ calf which they could worship. They had to have a god they could see and thus be assured the god did not leave them. After Aaron had made this idol they said, "These are thy gods O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt." By this declaration they gave evidence of having completely forgotten which god it was who brought them up out ~~thence~~ of the land of Egypt.

Then if we read on in this chapter we see that God becomes angry with His people and He would destroy them. But Moses interceded for them and only by his pleading that the death of all these people would cause God's name to be looked upon as being deceitful and dishonest, prevents

God from exacting a just death upon all of them. After Moses returned to the Israelites camp and melted down the golden calf, and spread it in their drinking water and made them drink it, he then called for those who in the camp who were on the Lord's side. These he ordered to slay the unbelievers among them, and this they did.

But even after this Moses went up again on the Mt, and pleaded with God to forgive their iniquity. God promised to blot out ~~him~~ from His book those who had sinned against Him. But He also promised to visit them in their wilderness wanderings. In the 35th verse of this chapter we read, "And the Lord plagued the people, because they ~~made the~~ made the calf which Aaron made." So from this we can say that when there is sin, there must be punishment.

Now from all of this we can draw some very strange parallels for these United States of America. This country was founded by men and women who were literally driven here by harsh and cruel taskmasters in England Holland and Germany.

A teacher asked the class why the pilgrims came to America, and one little boy answered, "To worship God in their own way, and make other people do the same."

Now he had it partially right, but it was to worship God as they pleased without anyone telling them how and when ~~to~~ to do it. Thus this country was founded upon religious freedom as one of the main ~~thing~~ principles for its founding.

When we look at the history of this nation we see that we had the equivalent of quite a few Moses among us. Men like Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, ~~Lincoln~~ and Lincoln to name a few. Men such as these who led us out of the wilderness of religious oppression, inhumanity to ~~men~~ men, inequality among races and so on. Men who looked to God the author and creator of all mankind. Men who strove diligently to incorporate into the very constitution, safeguards for all of the people, to protect them against others making us slaves. We have seen this country

risect to be a world power in less than 200 years. A nation that has set standards and been unsurpassed in production from everything ~~to~~ such as growing more corn per acre to canopeners. A nation that has reached out in all directions in daring feats of exploration. A nation that has been blessed by more wealth and prosperity than any other nation in the history of the world.

But alas, like that ancient nation of Israel we have made for ourselves golden calves which we have begun to worship in the past few generations and we have slowly but surely turned our backs upon our creator. We have said as they once did, "These are thy gods O America, which brought thee up out of the land of the unknown." And we have bowed down to them and worshiped them.

If we look about us we can see the gods we have made. It has become such an ingrained thing in our nation that it has reached the so called grass roots level, and no one of us can point the finger and say "thou art the man" as Nathan once pointed the finger and said to King David. We all have our own little gods in our lives, perhaps some of us have one a little more than some others, but we all have them. We have made gods of wealth, and power. Gods of building and loans and banks. Stocks and bonds, land investments, land development. We have gods of iron and steel, buildings for rent and sale. We have power equipment gods of tractors, and cars and motor bikes, and motor cycles. We have gods of tents and trailers and campers and swimming pools. We have gods of liquor and tobacco, and sex and other peoples husbands and wives. ~~***~~ All of these are the golden calves that America has been bowing down ~~xxx~~ to more and more each year.

We have finally reached the point where a group of people in the name of protecting us from another political party or person, have used all sorts of crooked means to insure that we are protected. Thus we have a stinking mess we call simply Watergate. The party out of ~~power~~ power thus uses this as a wedge to smear whatever vestige of respectability

our present president has, hoping ~~that~~ they may cover their own tracks, and we will forget they had their Lyndon Johnson, and Kennedy scandals. But all of this proves that Mr. Nixon, or Mr. Kennedy, or Mr. Johnson is no better, nor no worse than any of us. We have let all of this happen because we are all only interested in ourselves and our own greed for things.

If any of us disbelieve this we only need ask some questions. Why do we have inflation? Because the dealers and sellers want to make the most they can for their products. Why do we have such high rents and interest and mortgage rates? Because the investors big and little want the most return on their investments. Thus we can question all areas of our society and the answers are all the same, "These are Thy gods O America, ~~that~~ which brought thee up out of the land of the unknown."

But what does God say to all of this and all through this. He is still ~~saying~~ saying today as He did then, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." We once prided ourselves on being, "One nation under God." We took so much pride in this that we even added it to the pledge of allegiance. But we must ask today because of the conditions in our nation, "'One nation under which God?" Is it the God of hatred, or of power, or of wealth, or of greed, of sex, of overindulgence in food and drink and drugs? Is it the god of powerful senators, or presidents whose snap of the finger can have instant response?

We have come to such a point in our nation where we refuse to give God a few hours of our time each week. We have time for everything but God. Let special services be called in our churches and people grumble and moan that the church is out to make money every time you turn around. But did you notice we did not ask for an offering tonight? We did not ask not because we were afraid to have one, but simply because the purpose of this service is not to take up a collection, but instead to collect ourselves together to pray to God for our nation and our people.

The handwriting is on the wall my friends. We need to either change our course in our nation in so many areas, or we are doomed.

God is not going to stand by and see us waste, and pollute, and run rampant over other people without punishing us for it. I just read last week that the United States permitted 100,000 men women and children to die slowly of starvation in Africa, simply because we did not act fast enough to relief their suffering. Our congress sits and deliberates at a snails pace on so many large issues and passes legislation of no consequence in a short time. In Pennsylvania we cannot get a budget through the legislature for months on end, but in a matter of seferal days they passed two bills. One to designate the firefly as the state bug, and the other to fine anyone caught streaking. A tremendous piece of work.

We have become indifferent to the needs of our own people as well as the people of the world. We are like that woman on the commercial of several years ago, suffering from a headache, who becomes upset with her mother and shouts, "I can do it myself, Mother." Well this is what we have done to God. "I can do it myself God, let me alone, I don't need you."

We are to be pitied indeed. We are indeed "One Nation Under God", but "Which God?" Let us, you and I let this service be a start in a continual prayer vigil in our lives, to ask God for His help in our nation, and in our world.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 7, 1974
 COMMUNION SUNDAY

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 SHARI MCBRIDE, BRIAN KENNEDY - ACOLYTES

 ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION 10:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE MUSIC: "ANDANTE RELIGIOSO" GOTTSCHALK
 "COMMUNION" SERGISSON

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 14 "PRAISE YE THE FATHER"
 *ASCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN
 *CALL TO WORSHIP
 *INVOCATION
 *PRAISE
 *PASTOR - O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS
 *PEOPLE - AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY
 SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 53
 ANNOUNCEMENTS
 OFFERING
 OFFERTORY: "AGNUS DEI" BIZET
 PIANO - MARILYN STEPHENSON
 ORGAN - VELMA COLLINS

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS
 SOLO: KARL WHITE
 SERMON: "PASS THE BUCK!"

*GLORIA PATRI
 *AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES CREED)
 COMMUNION HYMN No. 341 "HERE, O MY LORD"
 *CALL TO COMMUNION - PAGE 32
 *EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *INSTITUTION *AGNUS DEI
 THE HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE RETAIN ELEMENTS UNTIL ALL
 ARE SERVED)
 *PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - CHORAL AMEN
 *HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 338 "ACCORDING TO THY GRACIOUS WORD"
 *BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN
 *POSTLUDE "RECESSIONAL" TEILMAN
 ----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
 MR. & MRS. NICK NOHACH IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES"
 THE ELDERS AND DEACONS WILL ALSO SERVE AS USHERS TODAY.
 ELDER AND MRS. CHESTER STAUFFER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
 AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY SHARON STAUFFER
 AND DEBBIE MCBRIDE.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS INTO OUR CHURCH
 TODAY: LARRY R. FALKNER, MR. & MRS. JOHN STEVENSON.
 HOSPITALIZED: MRS. VIRGINIA BERTY 462;
 MRS. WILLIAM WINTERS 461. - ALL 4145 NOW

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 176.
 PLEASE GET YOUR CONFIRMATION CLASS CAMP REGISTRATIONS
 IN NOW. \$20.00 WILL BE PAID BY THE CHURCH AND \$15.
 TO BE PAID BY PARENTS. THE CAMP WILL BE AT CAMP
 LIVING WATERS - AUG. 4-10.

DATE TO REMEMBER - WED. JULY 24 - 6:00 P.M. - CHURCH
 FAMILY PICNIC - ALAMEDA PARK - SHELTER CLOSEST
 SWIMMING POOL - SPONSORED BY THE LAY LIFE AND WORK
 COMMITTEE.

REV. & MRS. LEE NEUMAUER AND THEIR SONS KURT AND JON
 WILL BE VISITING IN BUTLER LATE IN JULY AT THE HOME
 OF MR. & MRS. EUGENE STEPHENSON. OPEN HOUSE IS
 PLANNED FOR JULY 31 FROM 7-9 P.M. SO THAT ANY OF
 YOU WHO WANT TO SAY 'HELLO' CAN DO SO. LEE AND
 KATHY ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS CHANCE TO SEE MANY
 OF THEIR FRIENDS HERE.

SOME DATES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE FLOWER CHART:
 AUG. 25; SEPT. 1, 15, 22, 29 AND LATER DATES.

 ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, IN WHOSE
 HANDS ARE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD; WE GIVE THEE
 THANKS FOR ALL THOSE THY SERVANTS WHO HAVE LAID DOWN
 THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY. GRANT
 TO THEM THY MERCY AND THE LIGHT OF THY PRESENCE,
 THAT THE GOOD WORK WHICH THOU HAST BEGUN IN THEM
 MAY BE PERFECTED; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN

 COMMUNION CARDS ARE IN THE PEWS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE
 TO HAVE IT SENT TO YOUR HOME CHURCH (IF YOU ARE
 VISITING) PUT THE NAME OF CHURCH AND ADDRESS ON CARD.

KARL
 WHITE
 111

JUL
 111

MRS. MRS. WEITZEL - JUNE 15
 DURING M-PART 11:00 AM
 WELCOME VISITORS - GREET ONE ANOTHER

Then bull slain, blood placed basin
Then he enter Holy of Holies twice,
1st censor filled incense, then basin blood,
this sprinkled on mercy seat.
This, the sacrifice for priests.

Then 2 goats brot 4th.
pl' ing hands in urn had 2 lots in it, took lot
each hand.

place hands heads of goats.
1 lot for Lord, & he repeat this over appropriate
other lot for AZAZEL, meant Scapegoat. goat
red ribbon tied on neck
Goat for Lord slain, blood sprinkled horns altar of
incense which stood before veil
Then scapegoat released 2 remove guilt resting on
peop themselves.

Goat led out to supposedly wander in wilderness.
Actually driven out pre-arranged route from city
to cliff, edge of town

Here rock tied red ribbon, rock thrown over cliff
& naturally goat follow it & killed
According to legend red thred tied door of Temp, &
this turned white at very moment scapegoat was slain
& this signify peop cleansed of sin.

Now in this we see God provided substitute took upon
self sins of peop.

In this case it was goat.

It remained this way yr after yr, the peop celebra
Day of Atonement with priest entering Holy of Holie
to offer blood of bull for peop,
& goat being driven out to cleanse peop.

Remained this way until Js Xp,

On way His crucifix, He became scapegoat for sins
peop.

His blood poured out upon mercy seat for cleanse
peop

On this day also veil of temp ripped top/bottom
Thus revealed 1st time interior Holy of Holies

Significance of this man need never go priest again
to intercede to God for his sins.

Man could now go directly to ~~God~~ Js Xp to intercede
to God for him.

This what Lord's Supper all about.

It observance commemorating deth Saviour Js Xp
but also opportunity each come 2 God thru Js Xp,
& have sins we committed & forgiven, & never to
be remembered against us again.

Communion Meditation "Pass The Buck!"

Te : Isaiah 53:12b,

~~He hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was~~

~~numbered with the transgressors; and he bore the~~
sin of many, and made intercession for the trans-
gressor."

(Illustration passing the buck: boy on cats tail)
This is a good example of what is commonly called,
"Passing The Buck."

Harry S. Truman quote: "The buck stops here."

Passing buck originated with Adam & Eve.

G. ask Ad why ate of tree knowledge good/evil,

Answer: "Ask her, it was her idea."
Eve answer: "Don't blame me, it was tricky snake
that hangs around that tree."

Moses sought lead Isrites from cpativity, he naswer
God, "Why me? I not able lead them, cannot speak
correctly, get someone else."

King David confronted with immoral act, he answer,
"If only she no take bath that day, its all her fault"
Bathsheba answer if asked, "Well, after all he king,
and when king gives order you obey."

So hist. goes on & on, down thru centuries unti age
Js Xp.

Even His lifetime we C passing buck

2 disciples guilty this.

Pete in courtyard, try find out what happen maste

3,
he confronted by those who try place him scene
of Js ministry,

He say, "Who me? Surely I mistaken. Why I no nothing
this man. Must be someone else."

Judas after betrayal went return money & says,

"Here your money back, his blood on U, U R responsib
for what happen."

Thus we C long history buck passing,
but God made provision for this, long time before
much this history take place.

Lev. 16 we read preparations God made & laid out
make atonement His peop

What took place this special day was this:

1st priest place hands head bull in temp,
& he confess sins & sins his house.

We now stand in place of priest & have Son of 3/
God intercede for us with the Father

Th : the signif of Scrip for 2 day,
Sometime 2 day, this week re-read this 53 chap Is
Read & understand what God did for U & Me.

Isa h sums up in latter part 12th vs.
"He hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was
numbered with the transgressors; and he bore the
sin of many, and made intercession for the trans-
gressor."

"No longer need to "PASS THE BUCK."
No longer need say, "She made me do it,"
"He made me do it," "They did it,"
Somebody else not me."

Now can stand before God & say, as tax collector,
"God be merciful to me a sinner,"
Forgive my sins thru ~~thru~~ my Saviour Js Xp."

We now must admit we individ sinner,
own up to own guilt & not try pass the buck to
someone else.

I invite U to come to His tavle & to join me in
the meal that made buck passing obsolete,
Come, let us eat at His table.

"Have A Buck!"

Text: Isaiah 53:12, "He poured out his soul to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Most of us are probably very adept these days with a buck. By this I mean that with the high prices, and the shortages and so on we must do some juggling and figuring to get the most for our money. Now this is one kind of buck. But I am thinking this morning of another sort of buck. The late Harry S. Truman once made the classic remark, "The buck stops here," referring of course to the fact that all of the agencies and departments of our government, could pass the buck on up to the president. But when it finally reached him it stopped there, since he could not hand it on to someone else.

If we look back to the earliest history of man we see that the passing of the buck, was originated with Adam and Eve. When God asked Adam why he ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, he answered, "Why not ask her, it was her idea." Eve answered, "Don't put the blame on me, it was that tricky snake that hangs around that tree."

When Moses was sought by God to lead the Israelites from captivity, he answered God, "Why me? I am not able to lead them, and besides I cannot speak correctly. Get someone else."

When King David was confronted with the immoral thing that he had done he answered, "If only she had not been taking her bath that day, it's all her fault." If Bathsheba was asked about it, her answer probably was, "Well after all he is the king, and when he gives an order we must obey. So don't blame me, it was his fault."

And so the history goes on, down through the centuries until we reach the age of Christ. And even in His lifetime we see the passing of the buck. Two of His very disciples were guilty of this. Peter, who sat in the courtyard, trying to find out what was going to happen to his master, when confronted by those who tried to place him at the scenes of the ministry of Jesus, said, "Who me? Surely you must be mistaken. Why I

know nothing of this man. It must have been someone else.W

Judas after he had betrayed Jesus went back to return the money and told them, "Here is your money back, his blood is upon you and you are responsible for what happens."

But with all of this history of buck passing, God had made provision for this a long time before much of this history took place. In Leviticus 16 we read for instance of the preparations that God has made and laid out to make atonement for his people.

What took place on this special day was briefly that first the priest placed his hands on the head of a bull in the temple, and he confessed his sins and the sins of his house. Then the bull was slain and its blood was placed into a basin. Then he entered the Holy of Holies twice. First with a censor filled with incense, and then with the basin of blood which he sprinkled on the mercy seat. This was the sacrifice for the priests. Then the priest went to where there were two goats that had been brought forth. Placing his hands in an urn that had two lots in it, he took a lot in each hand. Then turning he placed his hands on the heads of the goats, and the one lot was for the Lord, and he repeated this over the appropriate goat. And the other lot was for Azazel, and this goat then had a red ribbon tied around its neck. Azazel probably meant "scape goat."

The goat for the Lord was then slain, and its blood was sprinkled on the horns of the altar of incense which stood before the veil. Then the scape goat was released to remove the guilt resting on the people themselves. The goat was led out supposedly to wander in the wilderness. But really it was driven out ^{OR F - ACCORDING TO} a route from the city to a cliff ~~overlooking~~ at the edge of town. Here the goat had a rock tied to the red ribbon and the rock was thrown over the cliff with the goat following it, and naturally the goat was killed. According to legend a red thread that was tied to the door of the temple turned white at the very moment that the scapegoat was

pushed over the cliff, thus signifying that the people were cleansed of their sins.

Now in this we see that God provided a substitute ~~for the~~ to take upon itself, ~~in this case a goat~~, for the sins of the people.

in this case a goat
And it remained this way year after year, the people celebrating the Day of Atonement, with the priest entering the Holy of Holies to offer the blood of the bull for the people, and the goat being driven out to cleanse the people.

It remained this way until the arrival of Jesus Christ. For on the day of His crucifixion, He became the scapegoat for the sins of the people. It was His blood that was poured out upon the mercy seat for the cleansing of the people. And it was also on this very day that the veil of the temple was ripped from the top to the bottom, revealing for the first time to all people the interior of the Holy of Holies. The significance of this is that at last man need never go to a priest to intercede to God for his sins. Man could go directly to Jesus Christ to intercede for him individually.

This is what the Lord's Supper is all about. It is the observance of commemorating the death of our Saviour Jesus Christ. But it is also the opportunity for each of us to come to God through this same Jesus Christ and to have our sins taken away ~~forever~~ and forgiven. To have the sins we have committed in the past forgiven and never to be remembered against us again. We can now stand in the place of the priest and have the Son of God intercede for us with the Father. This Son of God who has taken the role of the scapegoat, for us. ~~Consist us eat at His table~~

There is no longer any need to pass the buck. ~~Come, have a buck with me,~~

and let us share the meal of Him who made buck passing obsolete. Come let us eat at His table.

WE NOW MUST ADMIT OUR OWN GUILT & NOT TRY TO PLACE IT ON SOMEONE ELSE.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 14, 1974
 REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 SHARI MCBRIDE, BRIAN KENNEDY - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE MUSIC: "CHanson MATINALE" KRAMER
 "PRELUDE IN E" READ

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 380 "O ZION, HASTE"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "IN THY GREAT MERCY HEAR US,
 OUR FATHER, AS WE CONFESS OUR MANY SINS AGAINST THEE
 AND OUR BRETHREN. FOR ALL ANGER AND SELF-WILL; FOR
 ALL USE OF OUR STRENGTH TO BEAT DOWN THOSE WHO ARE
 WEAKER; FOR EVERY UNHOLY DESIRE AND IMPURE THOUGHT;
 FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY WHICH IS THE ROOT OF EVIL; FOR
 HATREDS AND PREJUDICES WHICH INJURE OTHERS AND CORRUPT
 OUR OWN SOULS; FOR LITTLE SACRIFICES ON BEHALF OF GREAT
 CAUSES; FOR PLACING DEPENDENCE IN OURSELVES RATHER THAN
 IN THEE, FORGIVE US, O LORD, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR,
 AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: 10 LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY (No. 55)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: HEBREWS 11: 1-16

HYMN No. 252 "TAKE THOU OUR MINDS, DEAR LORD"
 (FRONT OF HYMNAL)

*STATEMENT OF FAITH

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*LAYMAN: LET US PRAY.

PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "MEDITATION" FRYSSINGER

GOSPEL: "BECAUSE HE LIVES" MRS. ROBERT HEATON

SERMON: "WHO IS FIRST?"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 254 "JESUS, I LIVE TO THEE"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "MAESTRO" NOLTE

----- "CONGREGATION STANDING" -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MR. & MRS. EDWARD WEICHEY IN MEMORY OF "PARENTS".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, MONT

MACKINNEY, JAMES MALONEY, STEVE VARGO.

NURSERY IS PROVIDED TODAY BY BARBARA VARGO AND KAREN KENNEDY.

DEACON AND MRS. ALVIN TAIT WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 228.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. HELEN CUSTEAD (MAXIMUM CARE),

MRS. JEAN PFLUGH 434.

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MRS. ALBERTA (MAE) WEITZEL WHO PASSED AWAY LAST SUNDAY. MRS. MARY YOUNG WILL BE 78 YEARS OF AGE ON JULY 17, THIS COMING WEDNESDAY - SEND HER A CARD - I KNOW SHE WOULD APPRECIATE IT. SHE IS NOW A RESIDENT OF SUNNYVIEW HOME.

ARC CAMPING (OPEN TO ANYONE IN CHURCH) - CAMPING FEE OF \$4.00 PLUS LICENSE NUMBERS TO BE IN BY AUGUST 4, TO BRUCE MCBRIDE'S OR HOWARD BOLANG.

CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC - JULY 24 - WEDNESDAY - 6:00

SHELTER CLOSEST SWIMMING POOL - ALAMEDA PARK -

SPONSORED BY THE LAY LIFE AND WORK COMMITTEE.

REV. & MRS. LEE NEUHAUS AND SONS WILL BE IN BUTLER

JULY 31 - WED. - OPEN HOUSE AT GENE STEPHENSON'S

FROM 7-9 P.M.

THE NEW TAPE MINISTRY FOR SHUT-INS HAS BEEN GREATLY RECEIVED. A GOOD NUMBER HAVE BEEN BOUGHT FOR MEMORIALS, WHILE OTHERS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED BY FAMILIES TO BE PLACED IN THE HOMES OF LOVED ONES. THIS MAKES A GREAT LIVING MEMORIAL WHICH GOES ON AND ON.

If still yes, ask self again, & again, & again, 2/
until U can truthfully say NO.
Because ther not 1 us here who can truthfullt say,
Y to that quest, & not stand in danger of con-
demnation of God 4 being liar.

Now if this sounds pretty strong to U, it should.
A e us loves God with all hart, mind, sole, mind
(Illustration Dr. Torrey)& young man)

& so we could ask same quest this morn,
Have any us put God 1st in lives, really put Him 1st
Have any us put Him 1st in our politics,
in our businesses, in our pleasures, in our joys,
in our sorrows.
Has He been Number 1?

U C when we put these terms, it not simple A,B,C.
No longer like nice little memory verse we learn
as children, & long since put aside these many yrs
It become hardest thing we ever do, or strive do.
Js not putting down wise little saying, easy pie
No, He demanding discipleship, /fol
this discipleship above all us.

But because it impossible us do, no mean we no strive
Like any other thing put 4th Js, it guideline life
(Illustration Ike, & infected leg)

Here an examp faith in God, but also put God 1st,
1st in illness, as well as all things.
We speak Eisenhowers we no speak peop far removed
by centuries ago,
We speak peop on level similar ours.

So must ask quest 2 day,
Who is First in my life?
Is it God, or is it me?
Is it my wife? My husband?
My children? My hobbies? My pleasures?
My business? My property?
Where does God fit in?
Is there room for Him at all?

"Thous shalt love the L rd thy God, with all thy hear
with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is
1st & first and great commandment."

"WHO IS FIRST?"

"Who Is First?"

Text: Matt. 22:37,
"Ye shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

In our Scrip this morn, we read narrative by author
H rews of many familiar characters of OT
This showed their deeds of faith
Men like, Noah, Abe, Moses & rest stand out as
very familiar persons in realm faith in God

If read on in chap, author cites Barak, Samson,
Jephthah, David & others as examps he could have incl
If read stories these famous men, we C very distinct
why they stand out

Answer all 2 obvious, it is FAITH

FAITH VI ingred life anyone desiring follow Lord
Without F, we cannot do much anything
(Illustration girl home Xmas vacation & faith)

From this situation we gather what F all about.

But rather than deal F alone this morn,

I like deal nother dimension of it.

F like so many otherthings has more than 1 facet

We must look all facets to understand proper

So this in mind, let us look def Js give

If look 22 chap Matt, it explain simply there
Sadducees come Js, & try trick him with pay
trib Caesar, & resurrection Ded, (They no believe)

When he silence them, Pharisees come ask, vs 34-37.

Now this great Commandment.

(Illustration boy call boss inquire how he doing?)

It good practice take stock lives periodic intervls

Perhsps some us do, perhaps some no do

2 no which direction we head, it imperative we pause

look back, C what done, how we live

Then make preps either change what kept from rt path,
path, or amend lives accordingly

If I were ask quest, "How many us here can say we
love Lord with all harts, with all soles, with all
minds?"

I wonder how many could say, "Yes, I have?"

J* U thinking of self rt now, that U done this,

& self again.

If U still come up with YES, then ask self again,
And if answer still Yes, then ask self again.

"Who Is First?"

Text: Matthew 22:37, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

In our Scripture this morning we read the ~~author of Hebrews~~
BY THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK OF HEBREWS
narrative of many of the familiar characters of the Old Testament, and their deeds of faith. Men like Abraham, Noah, Moses, and all the rest stand out as very familiar persons in the realm of faith in God. If we read on in this chapter the author cites Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, and others as examples that he could have also included. Now if we read the stories of these famous Biblical men, we see very distinctly why they stand out. The answer is all too obvious, and it is faith.

Faith is a very important ingredient in the life of anyone desiring to follow the Lord. Without faith, we cannot do much of anything. We are somewhat like the young lady who was home on Christmas vacation from college, and who became engrossed in a discussion with a minister. She told him quite frankly that she was unable to believe in the story of Jesus. He asked her how she was going to get back to college, and she replied that she was going to fly.

"Well how will you get to the airport," he asked. "I'll take a taxi from downtown," she answered. "How will you arrange to get a ticket for the plane?" he asked. "I'll call ahead and make reservations," she answered.

"Now let me get this straight, " the minister said. "First, you will call the airport to make reservations, then you will get into a cab on the day of departure and drive to the airport, and then you will board the plane." The girl assured ~~him~~ him this was all correct. "Do you know the girl at the ticket counter?" he asked. "No" said the girl. "Do you know the taxi driver?" he asked. "No" said the girl again. "Do you know the man who will fly the plane?" he asked. Again, the girl replied no.

"In other words, you are willing to get in a cab, the driver of which you do not know, and trust him to drive you to the airport. You are going to the ticket counter to pick up a ticket from a reservations clerk, you have trusted

will have saved a ticket for you. You are going to board a plane the pilot of which you do not know and probably will never see, and trust that he will get you safely to your destination. And with all of these unknowns in a very real situation, you can ^{HAVE COMPLETE FAITH} ~~trust in~~, but you say you cannot believe in Jesus Christ, even though he has been written about and spoken of by many, many witnesses." *THIS IS STRANGE INDEED.*

From this ~~very real~~ situation we can gather what faith is all about. But rather than deal with faith alone this morning, I would like to look at another dimension of it. Faith like so many other things has more than one facet, and so we must look at it from each facet if we are to understand it properly. So with this in mind, let us look at faith from the definition that Jesus gives us.

If we look at the 22nd chapter of Matthew we can find it explained ~~very~~ simply there. In this chapter we see that the Pharisees took counsel together to see how they could trap Jesus. So they came to Him asking ~~a hypothetical question about~~ about paying tribute to Caesar. We all know Jesus classic answer, "Render to Caesar the things of Caesar, and to God the things of God."

And a little later the Sadducees come to him and they ask him a hypothetical question about marriage, after ~~the~~ resurrection. First of all the Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection, and secondly, they were merely trying to trick Him. So Jesus knowing their intent, gives them a very wise answer. First he tells them there is no marriage in the resurrection. And secondly he tells them that God, is a God of the living, and not the dead. Now when Jesus tells the Sadducees this, He is really stating that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are not dead, but are alive somewhere, and Jesus is showing by this that there is life beyond, thus disproving the theory of these learned men.

And we read that the crowd was astonished at His teaching. Now, that he has put down the Sadducees, the Pharisees are happy and they

want to make points with this wise man, and so they send a lawyer to Him, to ask the question, "Which is the great commandment?" And Jesus answers, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." There is more to this chapter, but what I want to speak to now is merely this great commandment.

It is a good practice to take stock of our lives at periodic intervals. Perhaps some of us do this, and perhaps some of us never give this a second thought. I believe that in order to see in which direction we are headed, it is imperative that from time to time we pause, to look back on what we have done and how we have lived, and then to make preparations to ~~make~~ either change what has kept us from the right paths, or to amend our lives accordingly.

If I were to ask the question, "How many of us here can say that we love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our souls, and with all our minds?" I wonder how many could answer, "Yes, I have." And if you are thinking to yourself right now, that you have done this, ask yourself again. And if you still come up with, "Yes, I have," then ask yourself again. And if your answer is still yes, then ask it again and again until you can truthfully answer "NO.", because there is not a one of us here who can say truthfully Yes to that question and not stand in the way of God's wrath for being a liar.

Now if this sounds pretty strong to you, it should sound that way. None of us, ever loves God with all our hearts with all our souls and with all our minds. Dr. R.A. Torrey a very noted preacher of some years ago once told of a ~~young man coming to him~~ minister coming to him and telling him of a young man who wanted to be a minister.

(Illustration of young man and Dr. Torrey's questions on loving God.)

And so we could ask the same questions this morning. Have any of us put God first in our lives? In our politics, in our businesses, in our pleasures, in our joys, in our sorrows? Has He been number 1?

You see, when we put it in these terms, it is not the simple A, B, C, type of thing that we perhaps thought it was. It is no longer the nice little memory verse that we perhaps learned as children and have long since thought of only in these terms. It becomes the hardest thing that a person could ever strive to do. Jesus was not setting down here a wise little saying that was as easy as pie to follow. No, he was demanding a type of discipleship that is above and beyond the reach of all of us. But because it is impossible for us to do, does not mean that we are not to strive toward it. Like many other things put forth by Jesus, it is a guideline to help us to live the good life.

~~As I said before, I think we have many of these things in our lives, but we do not have faith in God.~~
~~more of them. But faith is necessary.~~

(Illustration of Ike Eisenhower and infected leg)

Now here is an example of faith in God, but also of putting God first, in illness, as well as in all things. When we speak of the Eisenhower family, we are not talking of some far removed people of centuries ago, but of people who were ~~xxx~~ and are on a level similar to ours.

So we must ask the question of ourselves today, "Who is first in my life? Is it God? Or is it me? Is it my wife? My Husband? My children? My hobbies? My pleasures? My business? My property?

Where does My God fit in? Is there room for Him at all? "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, this is the great and first commandment."

"What is First?"

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 4, 1974
 REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. VELMA COLLINS, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 RANDY DELLEN, GREG BOSKO - ACOLYTES

 ORDER OF WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE MUSIC: "MORNING FRELUDE" ANDRE!
 "ANDANTE AMOROSO" ZITTERBAT

SILENT PRAYER
 *PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 381 "FLING OUT THE BANNER!"
 *ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN
 *EXHORTATION
 *CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, WHO BY
 THY LOVE HAST MADE US, AND THROUGH THY LOVE HAST KEPT
 US, AND IN THY LOVE WOULDST MAKE US PERFECT: WE HUMBLY
 CONFESS THAT WE HAVE NOT LOVED THEE WITH ALL OUR HEART
 AND SOUL AND MIND AND STRENGTH, AND THAT WE HAVE NOT
 LOVED ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST HATH LOVED US. THY LIFE IS
 WITHIN OUR SOULS, BUT OUR SELFISHNESS HATH HINDERED THEE.
 WE HAVE NEGLECTED THINE INSPIRATIONS. FORGIVE WHAT WE
 HAVE BEEN; HELP US TO AMEND WHAT WE ARE; AND IN THY
 SPIRIT DIRECT WHAT WE SHALL BE; THAT THOU MAYEST COME
 INTO THE FULL GLORY OF THY CREATION, IN US AND IN ALL
 MEN; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, AMEN."
 *KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)
 *ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
 *PRAISE
 *PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.
 *PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.
 *DOXOLOGY No. 55!
 SCRIPTURE LESSON: JEREMIAH 23: 16-32
 HYMN No. 392 "JESUS, THOU DIVINE COMPANION"
 *AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)
 *GLORIA PATRI
 *CALL TO PRAYER
 *PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
 *PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
 *PASTOR: LET US PRAY.
 *PRAYER AND *PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING
 OFFERTORY: "MEDITATION" KINDER
 SOLO: MISS DENISE REED FROM AKRON OHIO-GUEST SOLOIST
 SERMON: "IN MY OPINION!"
 PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
 *HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 402 "LET THERE BE LIGHT"
 *BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
 ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO" PEERY

 *CONGREGATION STANDING -----
 THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
 MR. & MRS. WILMER PFABE TO THE "GLORY OF GOD".
 SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALLEN ROTACCHI, JOHN
 REDMAN, DAN BOSKO, ROBERT KNAUER AND CHARLES PENAR.
 DEACON AND MRS. ROBERT KNAUER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
 AT THE DOOR TODAY.
 NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. SHARON STAUFFER
 AND LAUREL STAUFFER AND DEBBIE MCBRIDE.
 MONDAY - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE PICNIC - AUGUST
 5 AT 6:00 O'CLOCK. MEAT, DESSERT AND BEVERAGE WILL
 BE FURNISHED.
 TUESDAY - PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING - 7:00 - THIS
 IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU ATTEND.
 WEDNESDAY - NO COUNCIL MEETING THIS WEEK - COUNCIL
 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7:30 P.M. - AUGUST 14TH.
 THE ARC CLASS MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO PICK UP THEIR
 SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIAL IN THE OFFICE - SO THAT YOU
 MAY LOOK IT OVER BY THE TIME CLASS RESUMES SEPT. 1.
 AS OF TODAY THE FLOWERS WILL BE DIFFERENT EACH WEEK
 AND THE PRICE HAS GONE UP TO \$10.80. WE HAVE MADE
 A CHECK OF ALL THE FLORISTS AND THIS IS NOT OUT OF
 LINE. IF A FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO GO TOGETHER FOR A
 SUNDAY THIS IS NO PROBLEM. YOU WILL GET CREDIT ON
 YOUR STATEMENT AT THE END OF THE YEAR FOR ALL FLOWER
 PURCHASES FOR THE ALTAR. SEPTEMBER 1, 15, 29 ARE
 OPEN AS WELL AS OCT. 27, NOV. 3, 10, 17 AND OTHERS
 IN DECEMBER EXCEPT FOR 22ND.
 ARC CAMPING - CAMPING FEE OF \$4.00 PLUS LICENCES
 TO BE IN BY TODAY TO BRUCE MCBRIDE'S OR HOWARD
 BOLAM'S. TOUR OF THE GREENVILLE HOME IS PLANNED
 FOR SUNDAY.
 THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY - 134
 THERE WILL BE A SHORT MEETING OF THOSE THAT ARE GOING
 CAMPING IN THE UNDERCROFT RIGHT AFTER THE SERVICE TODAY

WELCOME MISS REED

Pres. speaks on TV 30 min, & commentators will take 15 to tell us what they think he said, Look entertain section paper, U will find reviews written by someone whose opin supposed shape ur thinking whether certain picture or play good/bad In TV section paper see reviews what someone thinks best TV shows, in their opin.

A survey taken among 1M 1500 peop as what program they watch on cert nite, & this supposed be natl avg, thus some programs U I think good, R dumped

Investment counselors tell me what I should do with whatever money I may have.

Opin some star athlete should determine which blade I use, or witch cereal I eat, or witch hair tonic I should use on my thinning hair.

Opins movie stars determine which cosmetics best for miladys complex, or which soap better.

Opin Supreme Court can change entire course of nation

Opin of jury decides guilt or innocence person accuse

Amy Vanderbilt or Emily Post determines which fork I shall use for salad, or whether I should eat chicken in public with my fingers, (as I can do in privacy of my home)

Perhaps need pray as I man did, "Lord, give me this day my daily opin, & forgive me 4 the 1 I had yester.

In MY Opin, the voices of preachers & prophets have many times only been expressing opins & 2 manny yrs. Insted sound 4th as tru pr's, too often words only opins

D f tween tru pr. & fals pr, accord Jere & all pr's was if message preface with words, "Thus says Lord"

If this term could not be apply prophecy then not legit

We'll, "Thus says the Lord" today as He always said, "Beware Of False Prophets"

There 2 many voices clamoring be herd, unfortunately some herd in our churches

Insted Gosp Js Xp be proclaimed, Gosp mans needs & Gosp of man being proclaimed

Insted Gosp Salv be preach, message of save self thru doing things be preached

If we 2 be truly led by God, be truly open His voice

we must listen for Him in His Word, The Scriptures

we must listen for Him in our lives

It is time we looked at ~~xxx~~ what are our convictions and what are our opins.

Someone said, "Peop die for convictions, but not for opins."

"In My Opinion!"

Text: Jeremiah ~~25~~ 23: 28,

"The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream: an he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully."

Several yrs ago, cult of peop prophesied end of world These peop live Calif.

said certain day, during summer yr world end/ Packed all provisions, & belongings went live caves in hills, await end.

Their surprise must been unbounded when day came/went still no end. World went on

Can recall hear reporters tell how peop went silent quietly back to homes, no fanfare.

But were more vocal when proclaiming end of world.

This good examp false propets.

Jerm Mt, Js tell peop beware false pr.

He say, come sheep clothing, inwardly like ravenous wolves.

He go on say, "By their fruits you shall know them"

Fr. Jere spoke against false pr in scrip

He say, vs 16, they speak lies supposedly from God.

He questions vs 18, if they have stood before God & gotten the message from Him.

He tell God's wrath upon false pr. vss 19, 20

God has said thru him (Jeremiah), He did bot send the pr's yet they prophesied, vs 21,

But they stood before Him they would have performed the duty of real pr, preach repentance to sinners.

vs 22

He tell God ask if man can hide from God, vs 24

He tell God's Word powerful, strong vs 29

God against all false propets, & prophecies vss 28-32

We live age more fals pr's, perhaps any other

Jere could easily be speak us 2day.

tell us, "let prophet who has dream, tell dream,

but let him who has Word of God, speak that Word

faithfully."

(Minister being stopped interview illustration)

We all have opins, & perfectly willing share at drop

of hint to do so.

(Illustration Eli Wallech and old movie)

This about what our age amt to, opins, opins, & more

opins.

This proven by Gosp Js Xp.

3#?

This Gosp always same, always will be

We sinners, wages sin/death

we cannot save selves good works, good deeds

We may be saved, by come Him accept Him personally in our lives.

We must ignore opins those pr's would have us belie

we have salvation by work in ghettos,

or by help social movements of day

We must listen what He say, "No man comes to the F. except by me."

So if we 2 B Xpian we must believe what Js, tell us

We must come 2 Him in other words.

(Illustration 23rd Psal & knowing Shepherd)

Here good examp, knowing the lines, but what good is it if we can say The Lord is my Shepherd, and never know the rue meaning of it?

"Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has My Word, speak my Word faithfully," says the Lord.

Read your bulletin back for today, it ironic what it says.

This what Js, did, & this we must do

It said on Newton tomb chiseled words, "Nature and nature's laws lay hid in the nite. God said, "Let Newton be," and all was lite."

We no this not complete tru

no Newton had vast knowledge as well as wisdom,

but we also no he knew his wisdom & knowledge limi

He once said, he was a little child picking up pebbles along the seashore. Around him the vast unending sea of unknown whispers.

"Fleeting shadows in a cave," are what Plato called it.

Paul said, "We see ~~thru~~ in a mirror darkly"

Gilbert Chesterton has said of the modern news-

paper, "It is a loud vulgar organ by which our

civilization proclaims that is has nothing to

say."

So when we tempted accept opins of editorsm commetato movie stars, star athletes let us accept them for what they are, OPINIONS.

Let us instead, "Let the propeht who has a dream tell it, but listen for the Word of God spoken faithfully by the real prophet, who wants to speak for the LORD," thus says the LORD, in my opinion.

"In My Opinion"

Text: Jeremiah 23:28 "Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream,
- but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully."

Several years ago, a cult of people in California, made the assertion that the world would end on a certain day during the summer of that year. So they packed all of their provisions and belongings and many of them went to live in caves on a hillside to await the end. Their surprise must have been unbounded when that day came and ~~went~~ and the world still went on. I can recall hearing reporters telling how these people went ^{STILETTOS} quietly back to their homes without any fanfare. But they were ^{MUCH} more vocal when they were proclaiming the end of the world.

This is a good example of false prophets. ~~Jesus told~~ In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told the people to beware of false prophets. He said they come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous - wolves. He went on to say, "By their fruits you will know them."

The prophet Jeremiah spoke against the false prophets in our scripture this morning. He said, "Don't listen to the false prophets who speak of vain hopes, who speak visions of their minds, which are not from the mouth of God. They will tell those that despise the Lord, that all is well, and to everyone who stubbornly refuses to follow God's way, that no evil shall come upon you."

But, he asks, "Who among them has stood in the council of the Lord, to perceive and hear his word, or who has given heed to his word and listened?" He tells that God has said, "I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my counsel, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings." He tells of God asking if man can hide himself from God? God says that he can see man and he knows what man is saying and doing. "I have heard what the prophets

have said who prophesy lies in my name saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams which they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Ba al? Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully."

Jeremiah's
A
We are living in an age that has more false prophets, than ~~any~~ any other time in the history of the world. Jeremiah could very easily be speaking to us today and telling us to let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has the word of God speak that word faithfully.

A minister told of being stopped for a personal interview on the street. He said he could well imagine the radio audience holding its collective breath awaiting the pearls to drop from his mouth. He said he felt that surely the announcer must have perceived that here was a very intelligent and discerning individual. A man whose very wisdom had gone untapped for too long. He said, "There is probably no greater flattery we can give someone ~~than~~ than to ask his opinion on something."

We all have opinions and we are perfectly willing to share them at the drop of a hat. On the Thursday night movie this past week Eli Wallach the noted actor portrayed a man who ~~was~~ is like so many people in the world today, a number and not a person. His sense of not belonging made him want to do something spectacular, so he plotted to kidnap a woman to prove his point. It was a rather hilarious, yet stupid plot, and after he had abducted this woman and taken her to his apartment, she begins to tell him something and he shouts at her, "Shut up, shut up, I don't want to hear your opinions. Everyone has opinions, and I don't want to hear yours."

This is about what our age amounts to, opinions, opinions and more opinions. Let the president speak on television for 30 minutes and then we must be subjected to 15 minutes of what the commentators think he said. Look at the entertainment section of the paper ~~at the movies~~ and you will find reviews written by someone whose opinion is supposed to shape your thinking as to whether a certain picture ^{OR PLAY} is good or bad. Look at the television section of the paper and someone there has written a review of which programs are in their opinion the best. A survey is taken of about 1000 or 1500 people as to what programs they are watching on a certain night and this is supposed to be the average opinion for the nation, and so some programs that perhaps you and I think are good, are dumped.

~~Perhaps we need to start praying as one man supposedly did, "Lord, give me this day my daily opinion, and forgive me the one I had yesterday."~~

The investment counselors tell me what I should do with whatever money I have. The opinion of some star athlete should determine which razor blade I use, or which cereal I should eat, or which hair tonic I should use. The opinions of movie stars determine what cosmetics are best for miladys complexion or which soap is better. The opinion of the supreme court can change the entire course of our nation. The opinion of a jury decides the guilt or innocence of a person accused. Amy Vanderbilt or Emily Post determines which fork I shall use for my salad or ~~whether~~ whether I should eat chicken in public with my fingers, (as I can do in the privacy of my home).

Perhaps we need to pray as one man supposedly did, "Lord, give me this day my daily opinion, and forgive me for the one I had yesterday."

In my opinion, the voices of the preachers and so called prophets have only been expressing opinions for too many years now.

Instead of sounding forth as true prophets ~~should~~, too often the words have been merely opinions. The difference between a true prophet and a false prophet according to Jeremiah and all the prophets, was if the message could be prefaced with the words, "Thus says the Lord." If this term could not be applied to a prophecy then it was not legitimate.

Well, "thus says the Lord" today as He has always said, "Beware of false prophets!" There are too many voices today clamoring to be heard and unfortunately some of them are to be heard in our churches. Instead of the Gospel of Jesus Christ being proclaimed, the Gospel of Man and Man's needs is being proclaimed. Instead of the message of Salvation, the message of saving yourself through doing things is being preached. If we are to be truly led by God and to be truly open to His voice, then we must listen for Him in His word, the scriptures, and we must listen for Him in our lives.

The Gospel of ~~the~~ Jesus Christ is ever the same and will always remain so, ~~and that is~~, We are sinners, and the wages of sin is death, and we cannot save ourselves by good works and deeds. We can only ~~be~~ be saved by coming to Jesus Christ and accepting Him personally in our lives. ~~So~~ ~~those~~ ~~prophets~~ ~~who~~ ~~would~~ ~~have~~ ~~us~~ ~~believe~~ ~~that~~ ~~we~~ ~~have~~ ~~salvation~~ ~~by~~ ~~working~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~ghettos~~, or by helping in the social movements of the day, ~~we must ignore their opinions~~ and listen to what the Lord says. Jesus said, "No man comes to the Father except by me." So if we are to ~~believe~~ be Christian, we must believe what Christ tells us. We must come to know Him in other words.

~~The~~ At a large dinner party, a certain well known stage actor was asked to entertain. He had chosen to recite the 23rd Psalm. (Illustration of Knowing the Shepherd.)

Here is a good example of knowing the lines, being able to present them flawlessly, and yet, not being able to convey the message, because of an incomplete knowledge of the Shepherd.

"Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully," says the Lord. It is said that on Newton's tomb are chiseled the words, "nature and nature's laws, lay hid in night. God said: 'Let Newton Be,' and all was light." But we know this is not completely true. We know that Newton had a vast knowledge as well as wisdom, but we also know he knew that his wisdom and knowledge were limited. He realized his knowledge was brief and he knew what he didn't know. He once said that he was a little child, picking up pebbles along the seashore. Around him the vast, unending sea of ~~whispers~~ unknown whispers.

"Fleeting shadows in a cave," are what Plato called it. Paul said, "We see in a mirror darkly." Gilbert Chesterton has said of the modern newspaper, "It is a loud vulgar organ by which our civilization proclaims that it has nothing to say." So when we are tempted to accept the opinions of editors or commentators, or movie stars or athletic heroes, or to listen to the false prophets surrounding us on all sides, "let the prophet who has a dream tell it, but listen for the word of the Lord spoken faithfully by the real prophet, who wants to speak for the Lord," thus says the Lord, in my Opinion.

OFFERING: "REVERIE" GUVLIAND
 DUTY: "A SONG OF PEACE" SIBELIUS SONG BY
 DALE AND LLOYD LINK

SERMON: "TRUTH?"
 PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 399 "ONCE TO EVERY MAN AND NATION"
 *BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
 ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RECESSIONAL" SCHUBERT

- - - - - *CONGREGATION SUNDAY - - - - -

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
 MISS MARIE DAUBENSPECK IN MEMORY OF HER "PARENTS"
 MARY ELIZABETH DAUBENSPECK AND GEORGE FREECE
 DAUBENSPECK.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, MONT
 MACKINNEY, STEVE VARGO.
 MR. & MRS. RALPH KILLEAN WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT
 THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: MRS. BARB VARGO
 AND PATTY BASEHORE.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 153.
 WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - COUNCIL MEETING
 THURSDAY - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - HAVE
 ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.
 FLOWER DATES ARE OPEN - SEPT. 1 AND 15 AND 29TH.

OTHER DATES ARE AVAILABLE.

REV. LINK WILL BE AWAY ON VACATION THE LAST TWO WEEKS
 OF AUGUST.

REV. GRANVILLE COOPER WILL BE WITH US NEXT WEEK.
 REV. CHARLES ADAMI, JR. WILL BE HERE ON THE 25TH.
 THE ARC CLASS AND OTHERS FROM THE CONGREGATION ARE
 CAMPING AT PYMATUNING. THEY WILL BE VISITING GREEN-
 VILLE FOR SERVICES AND HAVE A TOUR OF THE BUILDING
 TODAY.

- - - - -

O GOD, OUR FATHER, GIVE TO THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD
 A NEW HEART OF COMRADESHIP; THAT EVERY PEOPLE MAY
 BRING ITS TRIBUTE OF EXCELLENCE TO THE COMMON TREAS-
 URY, AND ALL THE WORLD MAY GO FORWARD IN THE NEW AND
 LIVING WAY WHICH HE HATH CONSECRATED FOR US: WHO NOW
 LIVETH AND REIGNETH, WITH THEE AND THE SPIRIT OF
 TRUTH, ONE GOD, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN.

Don't know bout you,
but I liked what I saw & herd from Mr. Ford.
He not ashamed call upon God
or he ashamed ask for prayers for self & nation.

2 things he said,
1st "Honesty still the best policy."
2nd, "Truth is the glue that holds govt, together."

I think he rt,
but we must take 1 step further
We must all as peop be honest,
We must all be aware truth is glue holds nation
together as well.

We had enuf lies, untruths, deception,
We had enuf false prophets surrounding leaders.
It now time we seek have honest peop all walks life,
it now time we all, "Know truth, and the truth will
make us free and keep us free."

2/

"Truth?"

Te : John 8:32, "And you will know the truth, and
the truth will make you free."

TV : Now, To Tell The Truth,
format, object of show.
It game lying deception, tho only game
it shows how truth pushed into background

Js said, (Text)
He speak Jews believe in Him,
He inform rev. of G. they have Tr. & tr. set free
in world.

Also Jn story trial Js Pilate ask, What is Truth?
Good quest. Tr? What is it? Who define it?
Who has it? What meant by it?

OT books I K. 22, II Chron, 18 story recorded.
If care follow, we use I K. 22
(Exegete ch. 22, vs 1-28)

This story good examp how Tr. circumvent & lies sot
Compare story events past week after
& past 2yr Watergate mess.

We see 1st time nation pres toppled power,
because aids assts surround him, false prophis

What really take place, flashood, lies, steal, cheat
almost way of life some peop

Conf. camp examp.
Good/evil, chance get test answers 15.

Surprisingly major. kids group think about it
T's reflection how child act/react circums. round
(illustration boy raised wrong) them

Isn't this where prob lies? At Home?

Isn't it we parents must set examp?

Amazed times parents say we cannot get children
go ch. 35 & pass off, "Oh, one day they have child
of own, they come back to ch."

That like conversation Coleridge had with parent
(Illustration this conversation)

Said before, will say again, & probably many times
"We need start tr. rt own homes, own area, then
revival may take place. in nation."

I believe God stepped into affairs our nation,
He brot change cause peop called name of God to
intercede our affairs.

"Truth?"

Text: John 8:32, "And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

There is a show on Television that is called, "To Tell The Truth." Most of you are probably familiar with it. For those who aren't it is composed of a panel of celebrities, and they interview groups of 3 people, and the object of the interviewing is to determine which one of the three is actually the person who works at an odd trade, or performs some feat out of the ordinary. At the end of a certain period of time the real person being represented by all 3 is asked to step forward. Although the name of the game is "to tell the truth," it is in actuality a game of lying and deception to keep the panel guessing. Now although this is only a game, it is evidence of how Truth has been pushed into the background.

Jesus said in the 8th chapter of John in the 32nd verse, "And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." He was speaking to a group of Jews who believed in Him and He was informing them that through the revelation of God in their lives they would have the Truth, and this Truth would set them free from the world.

On the other hand in another portion of the Gospel of John, during the questioning of Jesus at His trial, Pilate asks the question, "What is Truth?" And it is a good question. Truth? What is truth? Who can define it? What is meant by it? Who has it? In the Old Testament there is a story that is recorded in two different books. It is recorded in I Kings chapter 22, and in II Chronicles chapter 18. If you care to follow along we will be using the story as it is found in the book of I Kings. chapter 22 . ~~xxxxxx~~ The story begins by telling that for 3 yrs there had been peace between Israel and Syria. During the 3rd year the King of Judah, King Jehosaphat meets with the King of Israel King Ahab, and they plot to fight against Ramoth-Gilead which is part of Syria. King Jeshoshaphat pledges his ^{army} ~~xxx~~, his horses, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ and his people to King Ahab to fight in the battle against Ramoth-Gilead.

But first, King Jehoshaphat wants to know if this is in accordance with the will of God. So he tells Ahab to inquire of the Lord, what they should do. So Ahab assembles his 400 prophets and inquires what the Lord has to say about the matter. And they all answered, "Go up, for the Lord will give it into the hand of the king." But Jehoshaphat is a little sceptical and perhaps feels that these prophets are merely mouthing what King Ahab wants to hear. So he inquires if there is not yet another prophet that could be called upon. And Ahab tells him there is indeed another prophet, but he does not call upon him because he never has anything good in the way of prophecy. He confides to Jehoshaphat that he hates this prophet. Jehoshaphat tells him to fetch this prophet and hear his prophecy as well.

So Ahab sends a messenger to get Micaiah. While they are awaiting the arrival of Micaiah, the kings are seated on thrones wearing their fine robes, and all the prophets are prophesying before them. Zedekiah made a pair of iron horns and he holds them up like a bull and declares, "Thus says the Lord, 'With these you will push the Syrians until they are destroyed.'" And all the prophets prophesied with one accord and said, "Go up to Ramoth-Gilead and triumph; the Lord will give it into the hand of the king."

Now the messenger who went to fetch Micaiah tells him what all the other prophets have prophesied, and he tells him to speak likewise. But Micaiah informs him, "As the Lord lives, what the Lord says to me, that will I speak." So he comes before the king and the king inquires as to whether he should go into battle against the Syrians. And Micaiah tells him, "Go up and triumph; the Lord will give it into the hand of the king." But the king sees through this prophesy and he knows that Micaiah is merely imitating the other prophets. So he tells him to speak the truth and to tell what the Lord really wants him to tell.

So Micaiah tells him of the vision he saw of the death of the leader, (shepherd or king), and how the people are defeated and return home defeated.

Ahab turns to Jehoshaphat and says, "Did I not tell you that he would
t prophesy good concerning me?" And Micaiah then tells him that all of
the prophets have merely been telling the king what he wants to hear, and
how they have been speaking lies through the instigation of ~~the~~ Satan and
his helpers. These are strong words to be speaking against this vast
army of prophets. Because of this Zedekiah ^{becomes angry and strikes} ~~in anger and strikes~~ Micaiah
on the cheek and inquires as to how he would interpret this action? And
Micaiah informs him that he shall indeed know someday when he was by himself
and had time to think.

Ahab becomes furious with Micaiah's prophesy, and has him put in prison
with scant food, until the King returns from battle. Micaiah's parting
shot to the king is, "If you return in peace, the Lord has not spoken
by me." And he tells all of them, "Hear all you peoples." The remainder of
the chapter tells how Ahab is killed in battle and the prophesy of the Lord
once again was right.

This story is a good example of how truth is so often circumvented and
instead lies are sought after. I cannot help but compare this story with
the events of this past week and of the past 2 years in the Watergate mess.
We have seen for the first time in the history of our nation, a president
toppled from power because his aides and his assistants who surrounded him,
were false prophets in so many ways. But what has really taken place is that
falshood and lies, cheating and stealing, ^{trying to} ~~getting away with~~ away with
things has become a way of life for some people.

This past week at the Confirmation Camp at Living Waters, I was privileged
to lead the theme for Wednesday on Good and Evil. One part of this session
involved dividing the ~~gr~~ whole group into 4 smaller groups and giving each
group a different hypothetical situation to work on. Each situation involved
thinking through what decision should be rendered, choosing either good or
evil. The one group wrestled with the problem of a boy or girl in a ~~class~~
math class and not doing well in it at all. A good friend offered to sell

the answers to the test to be given, guaranteeing the grade of A-. The question raised was, "What would you do," ~~answer~~?" Surprisingly, the majority of the kids said they would have to think it over whether they would buy the answers or not. I think this is a reflection of how our children react and are reacting to the circumstances around them.

(Illustration of boy raised wrong & parents cannot understand this).

Isn't this where the problem really lies, in the home? Isn't it we parents who must set the example? I cannot help but be amazed at the times I have heard parents confess to me that they cannot get their children to go to church or Sunday School and they pass it off, that, "Oh one day when they have children of their own they will come back to the church." That's about like the conversation the poet Coleridge had with a parent, (Illustration of this conversation.)

I have said it before and I will say it again, and probably several more times, "We need to start with the truth, right in our own homes and our own area, and then we will see a revival in our nation.

I believe that God ~~has~~ stepped into the destiny of our nation and brought about the change we have seen take place this past week. I believe it has come about because the people of this land have called upon God to intercede in our affairs. I don't know about you, but I liked what I heard and saw from Mr. Ford. We could say that the Cadillacs in the White House have been replaced by a lowly Ford. But Mr. Ford was not ashamed to call upon the name of God. Nor was he ashamed to admit he needed our prayers in his life. ^{they were, "honesty is still best policy} ~~two~~ ~~one~~ thing he said that made a lot of sense, ~~and it was~~, "Truth is the glue that holds government together." I think he is right. But we must take it even one step further. We must all as a people be honest, and we must all be aware that truth is the glue that holds a nation together.

We have had enough lies and untruths. We have had enough false prophets surrounding our leaders. It is time we seek to have honest people in all walks of life, and it is time we all, "Know the truth, and the truth will make us free, and keep us free."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPT. 1, 1974
 REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
 CHRIS CAMPBELL, NANCY LINK - ACOLYTES

 ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
 PRELUDE MUSIC: "DIALOGUE" MOZART
 "CONTENTMENT" GRIEG

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 131 "O MASTER WORKMAN OF THE RACE"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O GOD, WHO HAS GIVEN US THE POWER TO DISCERN GOOD FROM EVIL, HEAR US AS WE CONFESS OUR SINS. WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE FAILED THEE AND OURSELVES. REGARDLESS OF HOW GOOD WE HAVE BEEN, WE REALIZE THAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN THE KIND OF PERSON THAT YOU WANT US TO BE. SOMETIMES OUR BELIEF IN OUR OWN GOODNESS HAS PREVENTED US FROM SEEING OUR SINFULNESS. WE HAVE FELT THAT ACKNOWLEDGING YOU HAS MADE US BETTER THAN OTHERS. OPEN OUR EYES, O LORD, TO OUR HIDDEN SINS, AS WE MAKE A SINCERE AND HUMBLE CONFESSION IN THE NAME OF CHRIST. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: LUKE 12: 16-34

HYMN No. 392 "JESUS, THOU DIVINE COMPANION"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFF GAY: "COME, HOLY SPIRIT, HEAVENLY GIVE" RODGERS

SOLD: "IN THE IMAGE OF GOD" PETERSON - VON MALONEY
 SERMON: "INFLATED LABOR!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 355 "GOD, LABOR ON!"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "A HYMN OF PEACE" PRICE

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY THE FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS TO THE "GLORY OF GOD".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALLEN BOTACCHI, JOHN REDMAN, DAN BOSKO, ROBERT KNAUER, CHARLES PENAR. DEACON ALLEN BOTACCHI WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR THIS MORNING.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: SHARON STAUFFER, LAUREL STAUFFER, DEBBIE MCBRIDE.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 183.

THE PASTOR'S CLASS FOR CONFIRMATION WILL BEGIN DURING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR ON SEPT. 8TH - 9:45. THE CLASS WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY ONLY AND WILL BE FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS WITH CONFIRMATION TAKING PLACE ON PAUL SUNDAY OF THE SECOND YEAR.

THURS - SEPT. 5 - 6:30 P.M. 17/76 FUND DINNER -

NO CHARGE FOR DINNER, BUT A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN. WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AT LEAST FIVE (5) COUNCIL MEMBERS THERE.

SAT. SEPT. 14 - 8:00 P.M. - DAN SCHALL, NOTED BUTLER AREA GOSPEL SINGER, TOGETHER WITH THE CLAIR HALSTEAD MEN'S CHOIR WILL PRESENT A RELIGIOUS CONCERT AT BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE BENEFIT OF BUTLER CO. BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL CYSTIC FIBROSIS RESEARCH FOUNDATION. TICKETS ARE \$3.00 AND CAN BE OBTAINED AT TRADER'S MUSIC STORE, MAIL - LYNN BEATTY (298-0958); ANNETTE BASSFORD (283-0958); OR AT DOOR.

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE HAVE MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

CONGREGATION DINNER - (FOR SENIOR CHRISTIANS AND ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION) - KEEP IN MIND SEPT. 22 - 5:30 P.M.

HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER.

COUNCIL MEETING - SHORT MEETING AFTER WORSHIP TODAY, MEETING IN THE UNDERCROFT. - SHARON C. NEEDHAM

WELCOME VISITORS - WELCOME MARILYN STEPHENSON
 THANK AGRI SS - MRS. DOROTHY - HOPE

"Inflated Labor!"

Text: Ecclesiastes 5:9-20

Text Verse: 9:16b

"What profit hath he that hath labored for the wind?"

Jerome K. Jerome 19C humorist wrote: in 3 men in boat, "I like work; it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. I love to keep it by me: the idea of getting rid of it nearly breaks my heart."

There been all sorts comments bout labor/work. Suffice 2 say, W we all do # lifetime, & cannot escape it.

2day we speak inflation & everyone knows what we talk about.

Seems 4 most peop their income no stretch far as outgo.

Inflation worldwide.

Herd news past weeks, Italy bankrupt, this week

4th major bank Germany forced close

Thus inflation serious matter.

But did U ever consider inflation in labor?

Turn 5th chap Ecclesiastes, & perhaps see this so.

Vs. 9, king same as we. Same level common man, must depend on others who sweat & toil in order to eat. With all wealth he still depend common things life.

vs. 10, More we get, more we want. Proven fact & part of nature.

vs. 11, More we get, more we use, & we only see them 4 short time & they gone. Only see them with eyes.

vs. 12, Man who do good day work no problem sleeping. A b man have insomnia because maybe ill-gotten gain. Worried bout stocks, bonds, financial deals.

Vs. 13, Nothing wrong have riches, evil in amassing & never using for good (Illustration LeTourneau)

vs. 14, Wealth of richman does him no good & cause trouble if he keep for self. May have joy of son, but often son only fit waste dad's money.

vs. 15, Way we came in world, go out same way.

vs 16a, Solomon calls evil go out as came in. But what evil? He perhaps express fact they only hope resurr. & thus great loss leave all behind. But death great equalizer & we all reduced to sameness. No longer rank or royalty, all children of God called home.

vs. 16b, What can we gain if labor filled with 2/ wind? Or we work for inflated values?

vs 17, Person who live this way filled, anger, sorrow, frustration

vs. 18, It good 2 enjoy fruits of labors, this what God wants for us. But this only end result when we do nat should do with what given to us.

vs. 19, God blesses us with gifts & we to use properly. This is gift of God.

vs. 20, Life flies by so quickly, & we only remember fraction of it. But God answers in the joy of our hearts. In other words, we know when we are doing what is right because we have sense of joy & satisfaction in our hearts.

This what Js poin out in Scrip # this morn.

He told rich man & inflated labor & wealth

Told how this did him no good, cause he had leave all behind.

Told how can only wear 1 suit at time, eat 1 meal,

Told 2 think of 2day & not worry bout tomorrow,

He close discourse, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

How many us here this morn, work at job we feel really best suited for us?

Will not ask show of hands,

I'll just ask think over in minds.

Have U ever considered God has special plan & place employment 4 each His children?

Way to find is 2 seek His help & guid thru prayer

I worked with, known many men bitter frustrated simply because work at job cause pension/ other benefits.

Employers cross country tell young men ask 1st,

not what expected of me,

but, "Do I get pension? How bout hospit? Vacation?"

When I speak get in job right 4 U, I speak experience if U forgive getting personal this morn.

I here cause I kept asking God show me way.

He led me different places of employ.

Each 1 training ground 4 next step.

Finally tender age 40, some say life begin, & I agree, I entered Seminary.

1st time in life, square peg, square hole, or round peg, round hole.

God finally placed me where He wanted me.

He can do same 4 U

3/

If U dissatisfied work or occupation, don't hang on
cause inflated values/ finge benefits,
ace problem in hands of God.

I do not advocate all go work on Tuesday say "I quit,"
I advocate instead U look at self & employment in
n' & honest way.

Ask self, "Am I here because God really wants me here?
Or am I here because I can make the most money even
if I have to trade my pride, my dignity, and my
Christianity to be here?"

We need come God talk Him just as would talk old frier
We need tell Him how we feel about job, how we want
be where he wants us 2 be.

Continue at job, continue pray about it.

He may send another job offer.

He may tell you stay where U are,

He may want U move another part of company.

But U must open your life & hart to God, & let His
Holy Spirit work in U

(Illustration of Chinese woman & how she prayed)

Perhaps we each need look anew at daily life & labors

We have inflated labor to extent we lost sight of
commonplace in life.

We need think more of simple things of life & seek
as Js tried teach us, "To place treasure where
heart is"

If do this we strive lay up treasure in hvn, & strive
less lay up treasure on earth where moths consume,
& rust destroys.

Soromon had it right when he said,

"And what profit hath he that hath labored for the
wind?"

May this not be said of us, but instead, "We seek
the kingdom of God" and let Him add the proper things
to our lives."

"Inflated Labor!"

Text: Ecclesiastes 5:9-20,
Text Verse: 9:16b

"And what profit hath he that hath labored for the wind?"

Jerome K. Jerome ^{an} ~~xxx~~ English humorist of the 19th century, wrote in one of his works entitled, "Three Men In A Boat," "I like work; it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. I love to keep it by me: the idea of getting rid of it nearly breaks my heart."

There have been all sorts of comments made about labor & work. Suffice it to say, work is something that we do for a lifetime, and it is something that all of us share and cannot escape from. Today we speak of inflation and everyone knows what we are talking about. It seems that for most people their income does not stretch as far as their outgo. Inflation is not only in America, but it is worldwide. I heard on TV this past week that the country of Italy declared bankruptcy, and that the 4th bank in Germany was closed because of the money situation. Thus we can see that inflation is a very serious matter. But did you ever consider that there may be inflation in labor? Well, if we turn to the 5th chapter of Ecclesiastes, I think we can determine that this is perhaps so.

In the 9th vs of the 5th chapter of Ecclesiastes we read, (read). In other words the king is on the same level as the common man, because without the toil and labor and sweat of other people he cannot eat. He is dependent upon the produce of the field ~~xx~~ just as his servants are. With all of his wealth and fortune he must depend upon the common things of life.

Vs. 10, The more we get the more we want. It is a proven fact and it is part of nature.

Vs. 11, The more we get the more we use, and we only see them for a short time and they are gone. We can only see them with our eyes.

Vs. 12, A man who does a good dayswork can lie down at night and drop off to sleep with little or no effort. The reasons being that he is 1, tired physically, and 2, he knows or has the satisfaction of knowing that he has

indulged in honest labor and his conscience is not going to bother him with guilt. The rich man in many instances cannot indulge himself in a good sound sleep. Too often he is bothered with insomnia because his stocks and bonds or his latest financial deal is on his mind.

Vs. 13, There is nothing wrong with having riches, the evil or the wrong is in amassing them and never using them for good.

(Illustration of Letourneau)

Vs. 14, The wealth of a rich man does him no good and cause him trouble if he tries to keep it for himself. He may have the joy of having a son, but often that son is only fit to waste the father's money.

Vs. 15, The way we came into the world is the way we are going out, with nothing.

Vs. 16, Solomon calls it a great evil to go out as we came in, but is it really evil? Perhaps what Solomon was expressing was the fact that there was only a hope of resurrection, thus it was a great loss to leave all behind at death. But you see, death is the great equalizer, for at death we are all the same. We are all reduced to the same commonness, king, or beggar, statesman, or laborer. We are just another human being in the sight of God and loved equally by Him. We are no longer kings or queens, or Presidents or Vice Presidents, we are merely Mr. or Mrs. or Miss.

Vs. 16b, What can we gain if all our labors have been filled with wind, or with inflated values? We pump air into tires, footballs, and basketballs, and labor can be pumped full of wind if it is merely something that is done because we must earn a living.

Vs. 17, A person living this way is filled with anger, sorrow and frustration.

Vs. 18, It is good to be able to enjoy the fruits of your labors because this is what God wants us to do. But this can only be the end result of our labors when we are doing what we should do, with what has been given to us.

Vs. 19, God blesses us with gifts and we are to use them properly. This is the gift of God.

Vs. 20, Life flies by so swiftly and quickly, and we can only remember a small fraction of it. But God answers us in the joys of our hearts. In other words, we know when we are doing what is right, because we have the sense of joy and satisfaction in our hearts.

This is exactly what Jesus was pointing out in the portion of Scripture we read this morning. He told of a rich man looking to his inflated wealth and how it did him ~~xxxxxx~~ no good whatsoever, because someone else was able to enjoy it after he had died, and all of his efforts to amass it went for naught. He told how we can only wear one suit at a time, or eat one meal at a time, and to think of today, and forget about the worries of tomorrow. He closed His discourse with the words, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

How many of us here this morning are working at the job we feel is really the one that is best suited for us? I'll not ask you to raise your hands, but I'll ask you to think it over in your own minds. Have you ever considered that God has a special plan and a place of employment for each of His children? The way to find it is to seek His help ~~through~~ and guidance ^{and known} through prayer. I have worked with many men who are bitter and frustrated, merely because they insist upon staying in a certain field or occupation simply because the pension is ~~so~~ good, or some other benefits are so great. It is not a matter of liking the job, or being suited for it, it is a matter of fringe benefits. Employers across the country tell us the first question asked by most young men who apply for a job, is not, "What is expected of me?" But is instead, "Do I get a pension? How about hospitalization? How many weeks vacation do I get?"

When I speak of getting into the right job for you, I speak from experience if you will forgive my getting personal today. I am here this morning because I kept trying to answer God's call in my life. As I look back over it, I see that He placed me in different positions, merely to train me, and prepare me for the next one. Finally at the tender age of 40, when some people say life begins, and I agree that it does, I entered

Seminary. For the first time in my life I knew that I was a square peg in square hole or a round peg in a round hole. God had finally placed me where He wanted me to be.

He can do the same for you. If you are dissatisfied with your work, or your occupation, don't hang on because of the benefits or the things that inflate labor. Place your problem squarely in the hands of God. I don't advocate that everyone who has a little gripe at their place of employment rush up to their boss tomorrow morning and declare "I quit." I do advocate that you look at yourself and your occupation in a new and honest way. Ask yourself, "Am I here because God really wants me here, or am I here because I can make the most money even if I must trade my pride, my dignity, and my Christianity to be here?"

We need to come to God and talk to Him just as we would an old friend. Tell Him how you feel about where you work, how you want to be where He wants you to be. Continue at your job and continue praying about it, and eventually He is going to tell you what to do. It may take the form of another job offer, or it may take the form of changing positions in the same organization, or staying right where you are. But you must open your life and your heart to God and ^{and let His} ~~the~~ Holy Spirit ~~to~~ work in you.

(Illustration of Chinese convert and how he prayed to God about his work)

Perhaps we need to each look anew at our daily life and labors. We have inflated labor to the extent that we ^{about} have lost sight of the commonplace in life. We need to think more the simple things of life and seek as Jesus tried to teach us, "to place our treasure where our heart is." If we do this, we will strive to lay up treasure in heaven, and strive less for the treasure of earth, that moths consume, and rust destroys. Solomon had it right when he said, "And what profit hath he that hath labored for the wind?" May this not be said of any of us, but instead, may ~~xxxxx~~ "we seek the kingdom of God," and let Him add the proper things to our lives."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 8, 1974
 REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
 MR. RALPH CORDER, CHORUS DIRECTOR
 CHRIS CAMPBELL, NANCY LINK - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "LITANY OF THE BELLS" BAYLOR
 "ADAGIO" MARTIN

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 1 "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!"

*ACRISPION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "FORGIVE US, O GOD, FOR OUR
 FEEDLE AND WEAK EFFORTS TO GLORIFY THEE. WE WOULD
 MAGNIFY THY NAME, BUT WE ERR AND STUMBLE ALONG THE
 WAY. WE HAVE SET UP OUR ALTAR, BUT WE BLUNDER AS WE
 CALL UPON THEE. TAKE AWAY OUR PRIDE AND MAKE US HUMBLE
 PERSONS, WORTHY OF WORSHIPING THY HOLY NAME. TEACH US
 THE WAY OF THE MASTER. GRANT US A TOUCH OF HIS HUMILITY
 AND GIVE US A PORTION OF HIS GRACE. OPEN THE PAGES
 OF HIS LIFE AND HELP US TO SEE THE SECRETS WHICH DREW
 HIM UNTO THEE. AND MAY WE, THROUGH MECKNESS, LEARN THE
 WAY HE WOULD BID US TAKE. AMEN."

*KYNIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*FEATBE

*PASTOR: 10 LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOHN 17: 1-23

HYMN No. 380 "O ZION, HASTE, THY MISSION"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "MELODIE"

TECHAIKOWSKY

ANTHEM: "AT WORSHIP"

THOMPSON

SERMON: "CALL ONE?"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 393 "O BROTHER MAN"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "GRAND CHORUS IN A MINOR" DEMAREST

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MRS. GRACE RIDDLE IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, JOHN

SNOW, MONT MACKINNEY, JAMES MALONEY, STEVE VARGO.

DEACON AND MRS. CHARLES FENAR WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL

AT THE COOR TODAY.

SHORT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 163.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY BARR VARGO AND

KAREN KENNEDY.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. ELEANOR MCWILLIAMS - ST. MARGARET'S

HOSPITAL - PITTSBURGH. MR. LEO BALBAUF - V.A.

FOR PAST 4 WEEKS. MRS. DYNIE SYBERT - BCMH -

DAUGHTER - JENNIFER MARIE BORN DORN SEPT. 5 -

CONGRATULATIONS. *Andrea Sybert*

WE WISH TO CONGRATULATE MR. & MRS. ROY PFLUGH ON

THEIR 54TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TODAY - BEST WISHES

AND MANY MORE.

FRIDAY - 8:00 - ARC WEINER ROAST AND HAY RIDE AT

THE HARRY FRY RESIDENCE - BRING YOUR OWN HOT DOGS

AND BUNS. THE HARRY FRY'S AND BOB KNAUER'S ARE IN

CHARGE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS. THIS WILL BE FOR ADULTS

ONLY - ONLY ONE WAGON COULD BE OBTAINED.

NEXT SUNDAY - SEPT. 15 - THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP WILL

HAVE THEIR FIRST ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR GRADES

7 AND UP - THEY WILL ELECT OFFICERS.

LADIES DON'T FORGET - THE SOUP AND SALAD WILL BE

COMING UP SOON - OCT. 15TH. ITEMS SHOULD BE STARTED

FOR THE BAZAAR TABLE. SEE ARTICLE UNDER WOMEN'S

FELLOWSHIP - ANYONE HAVING VEGETABLES - PLEASE CALL

LOIS WOGAN (282-1032) - EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS.

REMEMBER - SUN. 22 - CONGREGATIONAL DINNER - 5:30

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 841. 842. 843. 844. 845. 846. 847. 848. 849. 850. 851. 852. 853. 854. 855. 856. 857. 858. 859. 860. 861. 862. 863. 864. 865. 866. 867. 868. 869. 870. 871. 872. 873. 874. 875. 876. 877. 878. 879. 880. 881. 882. 883. 884. 885. 886. 887. 888. 889. 890. 891. 892. 893. 894. 895. 896. 897. 898. 899. 900. 901. 902. 903. 904. 905. 906. 907. 908. 909. 910. 911. 912. 913. 914. 915. 916. 917. 918. 919. 920. 921. 922. 923. 924. 925. 926. 927. 928. 929. 930. 931. 932. 933. 934. 935. 936. 937. 938. 939. 940. 941. 942. 943. 944. 945. 946. 947. 948. 949. 950. 951. 952. 953. 954. 955. 956. 957. 958. 959. 960. 961. 962. 963. 964. 965. 966. 967. 968. 969. 970. 971. 972. 973. 974. 975. 976. 977. 978. 979. 980. 981. 982. 983. 984. 985. 986. 987. 988. 989. 990. 991. 992. 993. 994. 995. 996. 997. 998. 999. 1000.

DISA - 0.5 OF TOWN - LOW ME

"All One?"

John 17:21~~g~~. "That they may all be one."

Most of us have perhaps looked at the official emblem or insignia of the United Church of Christ and have noticed the wording printed around the outer edge of the emblem. In case you cannot remember what it says, it states, "That they may all be one." This is taken from the first portion of the 21st verse of the 17th chapter of the Gospel according to John, which we read as our Scripture for this morning. This ~~was~~ formed a part of the prayer which Jesus was praying before His arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane.

This statement should raise questions in the minds of people as to just what it means. In the emblem of the U.C.C. is it to imply or to mean that all Christians are to be members of the United Church of Christ? Did Jesus mean it in this sense or was there another thought behind it?

Well, if we compare this to other statements that He made in the New Testament, we can readily see that this statement, "That they may all be one," ties in with His total thinking along a certain line. We read for instance in Mark 16:15, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Now the question arises, "Was Jesus saying that by preaching the Gospel to all ~~men~~ mankind, that "They would all become one?" Did He mean that everyone would become a Christian, merely by the telling of the Gospel? The answer is surprisingly, that many, many will hear the Word and reject it completely. He spelled this out in the parable of the householder, where the owner built a winepress, and planted vines and leased it to tenants. When he sent his servants to collect the fruits due him, the tenants killed the servants. So he sent still others and these were killed as well. Finally in desperation he sent his son to them believing that they would spare him. But the wicked tenants killed him as well. Jesus was comparing this parable to Himself and how men would reject Him, both in His own time and in the future.

But since we are aware ~~that some will reject the Saviour,~~ that some will reject the Saviour, does not mean that we must abandon all efforts to reach mankind. It only makes it that

much more urgent. The fact that Christians have used this Scripture over and over does not minimize that it is our supreme task to "Go into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." This is known as the Great Commission. All else is secondary.

We need to ask why we haven't Evangelized the world in almost 2000 years. In Proverbs 29:18 we read, "Where there is no vision the people perish." We do not lack money. Last year churches spent enough money on new buildings to evangelize a hundred and eighty worlds this size. We don't lack manpower. Missionaries of this and the past generation have led tens of thousands to the Lord. The only bottleneck is that we lack vision--- a vision to do what we have been commissioned to do.

We must change our methods. In Roman 13:11 we read, "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." There are 40,000 missionaries in the whole world of 3.7 billion people. Last year all of them by conventional means only reached one half of one percent of an unevangelized world. As a matter of fact, every time somebody was reached for the Lord by conventional ~~ministry~~ missionary work, there were 13 born.

But there is a Scriptural way to evangelize the world in this generation. In Mark 6:39,40 we read, "And He commanded them to make all sit down by companies on the green grass. And they sat down in ranks by hundreds and by fifties." When Christ was faced with feeding the multitudes He knew he had to ^{use a} systematic method, hence He seated the people in groups of hundreds and fifties. If you will recall the vast numbers of people who came to the Billy Graham Crusade in Seoul Korea, you will remember that this method was used to determine how many people were in attendance. This is how they knew there were over 4 million at the one service. Sections were roped off ~~thru~~ and each section had been measured and determined that it would hold so many people. Thus the knowledge of a fairly accurate head count.

Well, this is what Jesus was doing, and the disciples said, send them away,
E_ Jesus said the multitude must be fed.

One way in which the multitude will be fed is by the every home crusade sponsored by the World Literature Crusade. In our Scripture for this morning we read as I said before Jesus praying to His Father, "That they may all be one; as Thou Father, art in me, and I in Thee, that they may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me." In other words in a united effort we can do it. 415 denominations are cooperating in a program known as every home crusade, which is a systematic effort to place two Gospel booklets in every home in a nation. Every prisoner, hospital patient, university student and seaman is reached. Also a very thorough follow-up program is given to all new converts. Every day 4million new people are reached systematically with a printed Gospel message, written in their own language so they can understand it. For those who cannot read, talking messages are being prepared along with a picture type of booklet. These talking messages are low cost cassette of some kind. The beauty of this program is that the booklets are printed in the nation in which they are distributed. The print, the ink and the paper are ~~not~~ supplied by the nation involved. The work of preparing, printing and distributing is all handled by native born people. Thus, the program cannot be accused of being foreign or ~~or~~ being pushed by outside people. So far, one billion, one hundred and seventy million people, one third of the world have been systematically reached, and the World Literature Crusade is averaging 30 to 35 thousand written decisions each month.

Now why is literature the answer instead of conventional missionary methods? First, it greatly multiplies a missionary's outreach. It means that many thousands more can be reached than would be possible in the lifetime of that missionary. Second, it makes missionaries out of tens of thousands of dedicated national Christians. It puts more people into the spreading of the Word, than have ever worked at it before. And third, it enables a person to ponder and re-read what Christ has offered to those who put their trust in

Him. In the privacy of their homes the people can make their decision, spoke
t by the Holy Spirit, without pressure of any kind.

In John 17:4, Jesus prayed, "I have glorified Thee on earth: I have
finished the work which Thou gavest me to do." World Literature Crusade
provides tons of literature free of charge to your missionaries along with
the methodology to reach every man. Five dollars will provide the Gospel to
1000 people. Every Christian could provide 12,000 people with the Gospel
next year for 5 dollars a month and the finishing of the task that God
gave to man could be accomplished.

I wonder how many of you saw the telecast on August 25 for 5 hours on
WTIC. If you saw all of it or part of it, would you please raise your hands.
Thank you. Now I suppose you were wondering what the change in the usual
style of sermon was all about. Well, it came about because I had a free
lunch. World Literature Crusade sponsored a luncheon in Pittsburgh prior to
Aug. 25, while I was on vacation. Selected ministers and wives were invited.
So, Hirley and I went. WTIC picked up the tab for the luncheon and for the
five hours of telecasting on Aug. 25. So you can see there are still some
people who are interested in spreading the Gospel. Immediately following the
luncheon after the mission of World Literature Crusade had been explained to
all of us, we were asked if perhaps we would share it with our people. So,
since I was full, and sort of felt an obligation I volunteered to share it
with you, and thus this message.

If any of you would be interested in supporting this work we could supply
you with the address so you could do with it as you saw fit. Now mind, I am
not soliciting money for anyone, I am merely making you aware of a worldwide
effort to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When you stop to think that one
mailing and preparation of the Readers Digest, the paper, the print, the ink,
the packaging and so on, could give the Gospel message to 8 billion people
which is ~~much more than twice the number of people in the world~~ twice the number of people in the world
today, when you consider this, you can realize how we waste millions of dol-
lars, while the world all around us falls apart for lack of something to hang

on to. When we speak of the World Literature Crusade, we are speaking of work that is being done outside of the United States. At the present time the effort to evangelize America is not ~~be~~ ^{BEING} undertaken on this sort of scale. The reason being the much greater cost that it would take to do it here. Thus we must be involved in spreading the word by any available means at any and all opportunities which is why as you probably read in the latest Newsletter, we are pursuing the possibility of going on Cable TV. You as members of this church will not be solicited to support this ministry, but if you would know of any businesses ^{OR BUSINESS ENTERPRISES} that would like to support the spread of the Gospel in this area, please let me know, so I may contact them.

Each day that we delay the spreading of the Gospel message to all creatures is another day that is wasted. We must be about our Father's business, for now is the accepted time, today is the time to work, for the night is coming when man can work no more. May God grant us the desire, the strength, and the necessary resources to spread His Word throughout this area, and throughout the world.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 15, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAM FRY, MARY DELLEN - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE: AT AN OLD TRYSTING PLACE - - - MADDOWELL
GALILEE - - - - - CLARKE

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 21

*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O CHRIST WHO HAS CALLED US
IN LOVE TO BE ONE WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH GOD,
FORGIVE US WHEN WE HAVE NOT BEEN TRUE TO YOUR CALL;
WHEN OUR FAMILIES HAVE NOT BEEN ONE IN CHRIST DIRECTING
US TO CHRISTIAN GROWTH THROUGH A CHURCH UNITED IN YOUR
NAME; WHEN WE HAVE NOT ATTEMPTED TO LEARN YOUR WILL FOR
US; WHEN WE HAVE FAILED TO UNDERSTAND OUR COMMUNITY
AND ITS NEEDS FOR HEALTHY GROWTH. BE MERCIFUL AND
UNDERSTANDING, GRANTING US FORGIVENESS AND THE WILL
AND DESIRE TO GROW IN CHRISTIAN UNITY. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: TITUS 11

HYMN No. 229

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

*OFFERING

ACOLYTE: PAM CHAIR CAMPBELL

OFFERTORY: REVERIE - - - - - DEBUSSY
ANTHEM: PEACE BE STILL - - - - - BY PALMER
SERMON: PLAIN TALK

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 15

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: MARCHE - - - - - LACHNER

*CONGREGATION STANDING - - - - -
THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MR. AND MRS. CHARLES FLEGER
SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *PAUL RIEMER, DARLY TAIT
JOHN DREHER, GARY PENAR, AND DON KINGSLEY.
DEACON AND MRS. ROBERT KNADER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
AT THE DOOR TODAY.
NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. MARGARET COVERT
AND PAULA STEPHENSON.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 209.

TONIGHT - 7:00 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP - 7TH GRADE AND UP.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING - ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

MONDAY - 6:00 - FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS TUREEN DINNER.

WED. - 6:00 - GOLDEN CIRCLE - SALAD SMORGASBORD.

BRING A SALAD AND YOUR TABLE SERVICE - DESSERT

AND BEVERAGE WILL BE PROVIDED. ANOTHER FEATURE

OF THE EVENING WILL BE A FARMER'S MARKET, SO

BRING DAKED GOODS, JELLY, CANDY, ETC.

THURS. - 10:00 - MARY MARTHA CIRCLE MEETING - ITEMS

FOR THE BAZAAR AT THE SOUP'N SALAD SUPPER WILL BE

MADE. BRING A SANDWICH AND DESSERT AND BEVERAGE

WILL BE PROVIDED.

SEPT. 22 - NEXT SUNDAY - CONGREGATIONAL DINNER -

SENIOR CHRISTIANS WILL BE HONORED AND THEY ARE

EXPECTED TO BRING NOTHING. OTHERS ARE TO BRING

GENEROUS TURFENS - 5:30. CHET STAUFFER WILL DE M.

HOSPITALIZED: CATHY SHEPPECK ROOM 418

MONDAY - SEPT. 16 - 7:30 - SPIRITUAL COUNCIL WILL

HAVE A MEETING.

RICHARD WULFE 452

WELCOME VISITORS

SEP 27, 7:00 P.M. SERVICE FOR SINGING CONG.

2nd vs, P point out T 2 instruct older men of church in virtues admired respected by all
These instructs not elders church, but Senior citizen

me
I ructs 2 women same vs.3
With age come wisdom/dignity/experience
there4 older man/woman show by life/examp how liv

vs 4 what older peop can teach younger
Yg woman be temp, snow love 4 hus & fam,
mind own bus, no gossip, be clean/neat,
obedient hus.

Not mean be told what do all time, but be wife
& hus work at be hus.

In this manner Word of God not scandalized by
improper liv & those outside church see what is
& means be Xpian.

vs 6, yg men advised be sober minded,
tend bus, be proper member society.

Then P adds some advice T 2 follow own life

In vs 9, servants told how live/act
2 be obed, no talk back,
no steal as many did from employer,
they 2 be truthful/faithful in manner Js. Xp.

Then message what Jod did in world again brot out
by P. to show reason for liv life in new diff way

P. close chap by advise T.,
"These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all
a crity. Let no man despise thee."

He tell speak plainly, urge peop live this manner,
but also liv life of love, so no man hate U

Thus have message 4 2day as well.

It message "Plain Talk," & simple speech
It message God's love as evidenced in life/min/detl
Js. Xp.

Many areas society hear much/understand little
in rel. comm, many voice raise tell many thing in
multi-syllabled words/phrases, few if any understand

Insted should be hear things readily understood.

Good examp minister at lunch
(Illustration fireman making speech) #5

What makes fireman speech so wonderful?

me from heart

It just "PLAIN TALK"

Not fancy adjectives/flowery phrases,
but basics he knew bout job & he put heart/soul
in it

"Plain Talk!"

Te : Titus 2:1, "Speak thou the things which become
sound doctrine."

If I began this morn by saying, (read whereas etc.)
Most U would ask, "What he try say?"

Those who legal mind recognize 4going jargon as
something conveyed, deeds/wills, legal documents

4 most part, no speak this manner.

2 do so be like man want here senator speak
(Illustration senator speak)

We make lite fact times we hear/read things no under
stand

However, it actual happen unfortunately, & this
exasperating if U ever encountered it.

Theolog's good exam this at times

Let me illustrate:

Man from start time tried show cause/effect evil,
& how it can exist without God be able control it.
Eng. theo. by name K.B. Ahern wrote book,
called, (What else?) The Problem of Evil.

Here exmps his writing: #3
(Illustrate this)

I think perhaps all U have idea point I make,
If U understand what he talk about on either an
abstract, specific, or concrete plane about problem
of evil,

the specific abstract problem of evil, or the
specific concrete abstract problem of evil,

I sure wish U tell me.

Maybe old conserv preach had best answer bout evil
(Illustration this radio preacher) #4

But this only copout, & doesn't answer quest either
Merely nother form doub/talk.

This P. admonish Titus about

He tell T. talk plainly, give facts & details
that sound/true/basic

He seek have T share with peop. Crete truth plain
& simple.

P. write 1st vs, (read text)

P's main purp 2nd chap share with T, work of true
minister & pastor.

T in turn 2 use knowl in deal little flock &
help by instruct, by share, by set examp own life

This what P. had mind 65 AD when wrote T. 3/
Timeless words, just true 2day as were 1900 yr ago
Words that should speak 2day to young & old/married
& single/children/grandchildren,
"PLAIN TALK" that Js. Xp. is the same yesterday,
today, and forever."

Let us always remem 2, "Speak thou the things which
become sound doctrine."

"Plain Talk!"

Text: Titus 2:1, "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

If I were to begin this morning by stating, "Whereas the pastor, hereinafter to be known as the party of the first part, and the congregation of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, hereinafter to be known as the party of the second part, do hereby covenant together in that the party of the first part will conduct services of worship at the convenience of the party of the second part at a time and place to be designated by the party of the second part in agree^{ask}ment with the party of the first part," I am sure most of you would ~~exclaim~~, "Just what is he trying to say?"

For those of you who are legally minded, you would perhaps recognize ~~this~~ the foregoing jargon as being something that is conveyed on deeds, and wills and other legal documents. For the most part we do not speak in this manner. To do so would perhaps be similar to the man who hurried to hear a certain senator speak at a local rally. He arrived late. ~~He~~ As he was entering the auditorium he met a man who was leaving. He asked him if the senator had spoken yet. The man replied, "He is speaking now, and has been doing so for the last half hour." "What is he talking about?" asked the man. "I don't know," was the reply, "he hasn't said yet."

We make light of the fact that there are times when we hear and read things that we cannot understand. However, it is something that actually happens unfortunately and it is something that is exasperating if you have never encountered it. Theologians are a good example of this at certain times. Let me try to illustrate this. Man has from the beginning of time, tried to show the cause and effect of evil and how it can exist without God being able to control it. An English theologian by the name of M. B. Ahern wrote a book on this subject and he entitled it, (what else?), he Problem of Evil. Here are a few examples of his writing:

"It will be argued that the whole subject of God and evil has been in a confused state, due to failure to separate questions that are different and to keep in clear the precise nature of each question."

We are lead to believe by this sentence that the author will make the

problem clear. He goes on to say:

"It will be shown centrally, there are three distinct kinds of problem about the logical capability of God and evil. It will be maintained that the traditional problem of evil is fundamentally an abstract problem and that it is a problem about evil in general. It will be claimed that besides the traditional problem there are other distinct problems which concern specific evil. Some of these are fundamentally abstract problems which ask ~~if~~ whether the existence of God is compatible with specific evil. The others are concrete problems which ask whether the conditions for compatibility are met in the whole world. The former class of problems will be called the specific abstract problem of evil and the latter class will be called the specific concrete problem of evil. There will then be three kinds of problem about the logical compatibility of God and evil designated. It will be argued that it is essential to distinguish the general problem of evil from the ~~abstract~~ specific problem and that it is essential to distinguish the abstract problems, whether general or specific, from the concrete problems."

"This study is concerned with both the specific and general problems."

Now this may seem simple enough for the author and no doubt he knows exactly what he is trying to say. To make sure the reader understands all of this he quotes a source dating back to 342 BC, written by a man named Epicurus.

"God either wishes to take away evils, and is unable; or he is able, and is unwilling; or he is neither willing nor able; or he is both willing and able. If he is willing and ~~able~~ unable, he is feeble, which is not in accordance with the character of God; if he is able and unwilling, he is malicious which is equally at variance with God; if he is neither willing nor able; he is both malicious and feeble and therefore not God; if he is both willing and able, which is alone suitable to God, from what source are evils or why does he not remove them?"

Well, I think that perhaps from all of this you have an idea of the point I am trying to make. And if you understand what he is talking about on either an abstract, specific, or concrete plane about the problem of evil, the specific abstract problem of evil, or the specific concrete abstract problem of evil, I sure wish you would tell me.

Maybe the old conservative radio preacher had the best answer available about the problem ~~in~~ of evil in the world. He told the story of God's creation and of man's disobedience to God and the result of sin and evil coming into the world. He wanted to prove to point to his audience beyond a shadow of a doubt, but he had to get Satan here on earth before the fall of Adam and Eve or his whole argument was lost. He shouted into the microphone

at his unseen audience;

"My Christian friends, do you know when Satah came upon earth? Do you know when evil came down to tempt man and to lead him away from God? No? Well, I'm going to tell you!

Satan was kicked out of heaven by God who got tired of his nagging and he came down to ~~tempt~~ earth to tempt man. And I want you to understand friends, that this happened between the second and third chapters of the book of Genesis."

But you see this is a copout and doesn't answer the question at all. It is merely another form of doubletalk and this is what Paul was admonishing Titus against doing. Paul was telling him to talk plainly, to give the facts and the details that are sound and true and basic. He was seeking to have Titus share with these people on Crete the truth plain and simple. Paul writes in the very first verse: "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

Paul's main purpose for writing to Titus in this second chapter was to share with him the work of a true ~~pastor~~ minister and pastor. Titus in turn was to use this knowledge in dealing with his little flock and to help them by instruction, by sharing with them, and by setting an example with his own life.

In the 2nd vs he points out that Titus is to instruct the older men of the church ~~in the virtues~~ in the virtues that are admired and respected by all. These instructions were not to the elders of the church but to the Senior Citizen men. The instructions to the women are the same in vs 3. With age should come wisdom, dignity and experience. Therefore an older man or woman can show by life and example how to live.

In vs 4 what the older people can teach the younger is brought out. The young women are to be temperate, to show love for husband and family, to mind their own business, not be gossipers, to be clean and neat, to be obedient to their husbands. This does not mean that they are to be told what to do all the time, but to work at the job of being a wife, and the husband is to work at being a husband. In this manner the Word of God will not be scandalized by improper living and those outside the church would see what it is and means

to be a Christian.

Vs 6 young men are advised to be sober-minded. To tend to business and be a proper member of society. Then Paul adds some more advice that Titus is to follow in his own life. In vs 9 the servants are advised in how to live and act. They are to be obedient and not to talk back. They are told not to steal from their employers which is what many of them were doing. They were to be truthful and faithful in the manner of Jesus Christ.

Then the message of what God has done in the world is once again brought out by Paul to show the very reason for living life in a new and different way. And Paul closes the chapter of this letter by advising Titus, "These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." He is telling him to speak plainly and to urge his people to live in this manner, but also to live a life of love, so no man can hate him.

Thus we have a message that we can share today as well. It is a message of "Plain Talk," and simple speech. It is the message of God's love for the world as evidenced in the life, ministry and death of Jesus Christ. In many areas of society we are hearing much, but understanding little. In the religious community many voices are raised in telling us many things in multisyllabled words and phrases, which few if any can understand. Instead we should be hearing things we can readily understand. A good example of this is the story a minister told about being in a dining room at lunch time. Before he could finish his meal and leave a man got up and announced that another man was going to make a speech. He introduced the Chief of the Fire Department, while all the while the minister was hoping he could get up to leave. But since he had paid for his lunch, he was determined to eat it, and leave as best he could. The Fire Chief started off by stating, "I aint no speaker." But as he started into his speech he pointed out things most people in that room never thought of. He told how most folks never knew the number of the fire department and so had to look it up if needed. He told that many people would light a match to see how much gas was in the gas tank or can.

he told how on the average one garage caught fire everyday. The minister found himself becoming more and more engrossed in this man's speech until he did not want to leave, but wanted to hear what this man had to say. At the end of the speech he said again, "I aint no speaker. I been in the fire department ever since I was a kid. I Don't know nothin except how to fight a fire." The minister sat there thinking to himself, "Mister, you may not be strong on grammar and your speech may not be accepted in many places, but if you only knew it, you are making one of the best speeches I ever heard."

What made the fireman's speech so wonderful? It came from the heart. It was just "Plain Talk." Not a lot of fancy adjectives or flowery phrases, but the basics that he knew about his job, and he put his heart and soul into what he had to say.

This was what Paul ~~had in mind~~ must have had in mind back in 65 AD when he wrote this letter to Titus. Timeless words, that are just as true today as they were 1900 years ago. Words that we should speak today to young and old, to married and single, to children and to grandchildren. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Let us always remember to, "Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine."

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at his
footstool for He is holy.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 22, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAM FRY, MARY DELLEN - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE MUSIC: "HOW LOVELY ARE THY DWELLINGS" LITTLE
"LOVE" RICHOLSON

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 30 "COME, WE WHO LOVE THE LORD"
*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "Most Holy God, who does search
and purify the hearts of men; grant us to know ourselves
as we truly are; open to us the condition of our souls;
give us penitence and forgiveness for our sins; enable
us with steadfast resolution to amend our lives; deliver
us from the captivity of false thoughts and evil habits;
that with unity of mind and peace of conscience we may
have our full reconciliation with you, and be of the
blessed company of all your faithful people; through
JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOSHUA 6: 1-24

HYMN No. 304 "THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "MEDITATION" STICKLES
ANTHEM: "HEAR OUR PRAYER" (WITH SAX OBLIGATO)
BY RUBENSTEIN

SERMON: "G.U.B.I."

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 226 "DEAR LORD AND FATHER"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "MAESTOSO" DOIGE

----- *CONGREGATION STAMPING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MRS. H. F. SANDRACH IN MEMORY OF "MOTHER" - MRS.

E. M. PERRIN.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *RAYMOND COVERT,

ROBERT DELLEN, BRIAN FEARE, STEVE SMITH, CHRIS FEARE.

SERVING IN NURSERY TODAY DURING MORNING WORSHIP -

MRS. LINDA McMILLIN, MRS. JANE ARMSTRONG, ELIZABETH

ARMSTRONG.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 256.

DEACON AND MRS. ALVIN TAIT WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL

AT THE DOOR TODAY.

> TODAY - 5:30 P.M. - CONGREGATION DINNER - THE SENIOR
CHRISTIANS WILL BE HONORED AND THEY ARE EXPECTED TO
BRING NOTHING. THE REST OF THE CONGREGATION PLEASE
BRING ENOUGH TUREENS TO COMPENSATE FOR THE ADDITIONAL.

IF ANY OF THE SENIOR CHRISTIANS NEED A RIDE - PLEASE

CONTACT BILL PELUGH (285-6837) OR LET US KNOW IN THE

OFFICE. DESSERT AND BEVERAGE WILL BE PROVIDED.

> WE NEED SOME MEN TO HELP SET UP THE TABLES IN THE
UNDERCROFT - RIGHT AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE THIS

MORNING.

THURSDAY - 7:30 - CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE

MEETING.

> HOSPITALIZED: MRS. AMELIA DREHER, DEBORAH McBRIDE -
MRS. MARY JANE WEISENSTEIN, MRS. SUSAN (FALMER) DRICKER,

THE SHUT-INS ARE VERY HAPPY WITH THE TAPES FROM THE

SUNDAY SERVICES - AS YOU KNOW A LARGER MACHINE WAS

PURCHASED, SO THAT IT WOULD NOT TAKE AN HOUR TO MAKE

EACH TAPE. IT IS A GREAT ASSET TO OUR CHURCH. SHOULD

YOU WISH TO PLACE A MEMORIAL OR A DONATION TOWARDS

THIS NEW MACHINE - WHAT A TRULY GREAT AND LIVING

MEMORIAL IT COULD BE FOR OUR OWN SHUT-INS.

We told, "If we confess our sin, He is faithful and⁴/
just to forgive us our sin and to cleanse us from
all unrighteousness." this I John 1:9,

an in Heb. 7:25 we read,
"Therefore He is able to save them to the uttermost
that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to
make intercession for them."

Thus we assured we need only come 2 Him & accept
Him as 1 who redeemed us from our sins,
& we have not only 4giveness of our sins,
but communion with Him each day, as we strive
live Xpian life.

"Be sure your sin will find you out," but also
"Be sure that G's Univ. Bur. Invest not willing 1
soul perish."

So He stand ready receive any & all who come 2
Him thru His Son.

Have U done this?

1 urge U come 2 Him, cast self upon Him, & ask Him
2 live in your life.

"G.U.B.I."

Text: Proverbs 15:3, "The eyes of the Lord are in
every place, beholding the
evil and the good."

{ Illustration little boy & God watching him)
perhaps many conjure idea God like this when thin
G. all-seeing/all-knowing

4 Scrip read fall Jericho, how Is. took city et all
B4 battle warned Josh not take riches/riches 4 G.
All 3 burned cept gold/silver/brass/iron,
2B place G's treasury.

All Is. 2 obey rules,
but in 7 chap read man tribe Judah, Achan, felt
could disobey G. & not found out

Everything start out so innocently.

Battle Jer. end, all city burned
all things value taken 4 Lord

Now Is could recup from battles, enjoy measure
prosp, rest assurance acted accord G's wi1l

Josh send men spy out Ai,
when return tell not need all men 2 conquer

Josh send 3M in battle

men Ai attack Is, kill 36

Unknown Josh & Is. G withdrew favor cause Achan
He steal what should go G's treasury.

Defeat disturb Josh so much we read (vs 6)

Josh cry to G & said, (vss 7-9)

G tell Josh what must B done (vss 10-15)

Now when Achan take beautiful coat styled after
Babylon garments, must reasoned self,

"Why let this B burned? What waste. No 1 know
here, owner prob ded, shame destroy it."

& next it he find silver worth 200 shekels,

& gold wedge worth 50 shekels.

So take wrap in coat, bury in tent under rug.

Josh issue call peop assemble next AM

If look sit thru eye Achan, lets put selves his
place 4 moment.

He herd report some 1 sinned greatly gainst G.

He also herd person be exposed next AM.

His mind prob ponder quest whether he should
go confess or not

"G.U.B.I."

Text: Proverbs 15:3, "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."

For many years the name of Scotland Yard was synonymous with crime detection and the apprehension of criminals. Back in 1908 a ~~department~~^{Bureau} of Investigation was started in our country. In 1935 it became the famous Federal ~~Bureau~~ Bureau of Investigation that is equally famous throughout the world. But long before either of these organizations ever came into being, God had his Universal Bureau of Investigation in operation. I am sure that almost all of us have been told at one time or another that God is everywhere and that He sees all that we do and all that we say.

A mother whose little boy was extremely bad one day, was at ~~the end~~ ~~of~~ her wits end, and finally had reached the point where she felt she had to do or say something to make him behave, blurted out to him, "You better start behaving, because you know that God is watching you and He sees every-
hears thing that you do and ~~sees~~ everything that you say." He answered, "Is that all He has to do all day, lay on his stomach up there and watch me?"

Perhaps this is what many others conjure up in their minds when they think about the possibility of God being all-seeing and all-knowing. For our Scripture this morning we read of the fall of Jericho and how the Israelites took the city and all that was in it. But before the battle took place they were warned by Joshua not to take any ~~things~~ of the riches of the city for they were to be consecrated to the Lord.

~~And~~ Everything was to be burned, except those things that would not burn, and these things were the gold, and silver, the vessels of bronze and brass and iron. These were to be consecrated to the Lord and placed in His treasury. All Israel had to obey these rules, but we read in the 7th chapter that a man of the tribe of Judah named Achan, felt that he could disobey these rules and not be found out. Everything started out so innocently. The battle for Jericho had been ended and all of the city had been burned, and all of the things of value had been taken for

~~for~~ the Lord. Now Israel could recuperate from her battles and enjoy a measure of prosperity, resting in the assurance they had acted in accordance with God's will. ~~But unknowingly, unknown to the rest of Israel, while they prepared to enter the city, the situation concerning the city of Ai, the Lord was angry with them~~ Joshua sent men from Jericho to spy out the land of Ai, and when they returned, they informed Joshua that all of the army would not be needed to conquer this town. So they sent 3000 men into battle against the army of Ai, and the men of Ai attacked them killing 36 of the Israelites. But unbeknown to Joshua and the Israelites this came about because God had withdrawn His favor and was ^{some} angered because Achan had stolen of the things that should have been placed in the treasury of the Lord.

This defeat disturbed Joshua so much that ~~he~~ we read (vs 6) And Joshua cried out to God and said, (vss 7-9) So God told Joshua what must be done (vss 10-15).

Now Achan the guilty party had taken a beautiful coat styled after the Babylonian garments. He had probably reasoned to himself, "Why let this beautiful coat to be burned. It seems like such a waste. The owner is dead, and no one knows it is here, it would be a shame to destroy it." And next to it he found silver worth 200 shekels and a wedge of gold worth fifty shekels. "Why give them to the Lord when his treasury is already full," he probably asked himself. And so he took them and wrapping the silver and gold in the coat, he dug a hole under the rug in his tent and buried them there for safe keeping.

Now Joshua had his instructions from God and he issued the call to have the people assembled the following morning. If we put ourselves in Achan's shoes for a few moments we can ~~probably~~ perhaps try to see the situation through his eyes as it were. He along with all of the rest of the Israelites had heard that someone in the camp had sinned grievously against the Lord. He had also heard that the person was to be exposed the next day. His mind must have pondered the ~~id~~ question as to whether he should go and

The more confess or not. ~~xx~~ he thought about it the more he must have convinced himself that someone else must have done something far worse than he. After all he had only taken a worthless garment, to be destroyed anyhow. No one knew of this except the members of his immediate family and they had not told anyone. It just had to be someone else. Probably the night seemed to never end for Achan, but ~~xx~~ at last the dawn came and the camp began to stir. Preparations were being made to hold the great assembly, and people were moving to and ~~from~~ fro. But Still Achan was uneasy, "What if someone had told on him," he probably reasoned. And while his private thoughts troubled him the trumpet sounded long and loud. People hurried to the central area of their encampment. Quickly he surveyed the situation and then he must have breathed a sigh of relief, for there were over 600,000 people here. How could one individual be singled out from this crowd? With this inward reassurance Achan walked toward the crowd, and took his place among the tribe of Judah.

But it was at this time that God's Universal Bureau of Investigation went to work. First the tribe of Judah was singled out as the tribe in which the guilty party ~~was~~ was a member. That was strange and perhaps Achan's family drew closer to his side, and looked at him with looks of fear. But Achan could very easily have reassured them by saying, "So what, that doesn't mean anything. After all, there are 76,000 people in the tribe of Judah. Can't you see the impossible task Joshua has in finding us in such a large multitude? Relax, play it cool!"

But even as Achan was trying to reassure his family the trumpet sounded again, and Joshua called out the family of Zerah as containing the culprit. "The family of Zerah?" Achan must have asked himself, and his own heart must have begun to beat faster. Why that was ~~his~~ his great-grandfather.

He himself was one of the family of Zerah. He must have very quickly looked over the faces of his uncles and aunts, his cousins, to see if he could detect there a guilty face. He must have been thinking that one of them had really done something terrible, and why didn't he or she confess it?

Again the trumpet sounded, and Joshua called out the family name of Zabdi. Why this was his own grandfather, Achan must have thought. All eyes turned towards his immediate relatives. Surely someone must step forward and confess. The little bit Achan had taken was not troubling him, God wasn't worried over the few little trophies he had, one of his relatives had done something terrible, -but who could it be?

He glanced up and ~~xxx~~ saw Joshua staring intently at him. Should he go forward and confess? No, he couldn't do that. What would people think of him?

Again the trumpet sounded, and Joshua called out the family of Carmi. His father's family. His own brothers and sisters and their families. Achan was probably now terrified. And at last the dreaded moment arrived and ~~he was called forward~~ his name was called and he found himself standing by himself facing Joshua.

And Joshua said to him (vs 19). So we read that Achan confessed, and once again the G.U.B.I. had done its work. GOD'S Universal Bureau of Investigation had gotten the right man.

We read in Proverbs 15:3, "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." We know from this that God is all seeing and all knowing. We may think that we can do things and not be found out, but we are only kidding ourselves. Adam and Eve did this and this is the reason we have sin in the world! King David plotted to have Uriah killed so he could have Uriah's wife, and God found him out. Jonah sought to go against what God wanted him to do and God found him out. Ananias and Sapphira lied about a piece of property and were found out much like ~~Achan~~ Achan was. In all of these instances we can see the G.U.B.I. at work. Moses cautioned the Israelites that if they did not do as the Lord commanded they were sinning, and he says in Numbers 32:23, "Be sure your sin will find you out." In Revelation 20:12 we read, "And the books were opened : and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books according to their works."

Thus we realize that we are going to have to answer for the things we do and say. The thinking of many modern Christians is much like Achan. Many of them are quieting their conscience with the false belief that God is not nearly as particular as the Bible makes him out to be. How often we can hear people say, "You don't really believe that God is that particular do you?" Or they will say something like, "Well, I realize that isn't exactly what I should have said or done according to the Bible, but it was such a little thing." Or more often we hear, "Well, it really wasn't an untruth, it was just a little white lie."

What a tragedy it will be to some to discover that our modern ideas about big sins, and little sins, are just as much out of harmony with the Word of God as was Achan's ~~idea~~ idea that his little act of theft was only a minor thing. God's Universal Bureau of Investigation may know all about us, but it is not just to keep us in line, it is because of His intense love for us. He provided the ~~xxx~~ solution for our sin through Christ. We are told that "If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." "wherefore He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Thus we are assured that we need only come to Him, and accept Him as the one who redeemed us from our sins, and we can have not only the forgiveness of our sins, but communion with Him each day, to help us as we strive to live the Christian life. "Be sure your sin will find you out," but also be sure that God's Universal Bureau of Investigation, is not willing that one soul should perish, and so He stands ready to receive any and all who will come to Him through His Son.

It is good to sing praises unto the Lord, for He is
great, and greatly to be praised. Ascribe to the
Lord the glory due His name.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 29, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHORUS DIRECTOR
PAM FRY, MARY DELLEN - ADOPTIVES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "ANDANTE" RHEINBERGER
"PASTORALE" BURNEY

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 23 "OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY"

*ACCESSION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "HAVE MERCY UPON US, O GOD,
ACCORDING TO YOUR LOVING - KINDNESS: ACCORDING TO THE
MULTITUDE OF YOUR TENDER MERCIES, blot out our transgressions.
WASH US THOROUGHLY FROM OUR INIQUITIES, AND CLEANSE US
FROM OUR SINS. FOR WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, AND
OUR SINS ARE EVER BEFORE US. PURGE US AND WE SHALL BE
CLEAN; WASH US AND WE SHALL BE WHITER THAN SNOW. CREATE
IN US CLEAN HEARTS, O GOD, AND PUT A NEW AND RIGHT SPIRIT
WITHIN US. CAST US NOT AWAY FROM YOUR PRESENCE, AND TAKE
NOT YOUR HOLY SPIRIT FROM US. RESTORE TO US THE JOY OF
YOUR SALVATION, AND UPHOLD US WITH A WILLING SPIRIT.
IN THE NAME OF CHRIST, YOUR SON, OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: ACTS 13: 13-33

HYMN No. 280 "BLEST OF THE TIE THAT BINDS"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

AFTER A PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "OVER THE STARS" ABT

ANTHEM: "ONLY A WHISPERED PRAYER" BY MEREDITH

WOMEN'S CHORUS

SERMON: "A FISTFUL OF ACES"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 318 "NEARER, MY GOD, TO THEE"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "POSTLUDE" MOZART

--- *CONGREGATION STANDING ---

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MRS. MARCE TRACE IN MEMORY OF HER "HUSBAND" -

ARTHUR C. TRACE.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALVIN TAIT, MIKE NAZARUK,

ROBERT STEWART AND RICHARD MANGEL.

MR. & MRS. EARL WIGAN WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE

DOOR THIS MORNING.

SERVING IN NURSERY TODAY DURING MORNING WORSHIP -

MRS. JUDY SNYDER AND PATTY BASERENE.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 213. *Event Memorial*

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. AMELIA DREHER, MR. WM. A. WINTERS,

RAYMOND MILLER - BOMH: LEO BALDAUF - V.A. HOSPITAL.

OUR CHURCH HAS CHARGE OF USHERING PATIENTS TO SERVICE

AT THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL DURING THE

MONTH OF OCTOBER. IF YOU ARE ASKED OR YOU CAN HELP,

PLEASE DO SO - CONTACT BILL PELUGH - HE NEEDS ALL

THE HELP HE CAN GET.

TODAY NINE (9) OF OUR YOUTH ARE AT THE YOUTH RALLY

AT CAMP LIVING WATERS - THIS WAS A TWO DAY EVENT.

TODAY - LAKE ERIE ASSOCIATION MEETING AT SHARON -

2:30 - 8:00 - IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO YOU WOULD BE

WELCOME.

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY - THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE

HAVE ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION WILL BE NEXT SUNDAY AT 11:00 A.M.

THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY - OCT. 13 - BAPTISM.

TUESDAY - OCT. 15 - SOUP AND SALAD SUPPER SPONSORED

BY WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP. TICKETS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM

ANY MEMBER OF CIRCLES.

MON - 7:30 - CONSTITUTIONAL REV. COMM. MEETING.

His promise imparted by Js Xp He not leave comfort2/
see evidence H. sp. many areas life, less
if willing place all aspects life His hands
He see God supplies all material needs His child.
4 sites took form supply needs 40yr wilderness
states, "Forty years bore de their manners in
the wilderness."

By this he mean God patiently listened their grumblings
& moan about life & how great them.

Don't U imagine God still patiently listening our
grumblings/groanings 2day?

I sure He is,

But I also sure many times we not rt kind peop
2 B grumbling/groaning because many times our
probs self-inflicted.

Good examp this is situation many parts world

(Illustration living 100 dollar year.)

This good illus what happening in world

We publicize this & question why permitted,
why it happen?

Others may question "Is this an exam. of God givin
aces to His children?"

What good question,

but answer lie inner circles denoms

Many times spend money things should take 2nd place

Govt officials more concerned keep prices up

certain commodities, those many things rot, thrown

away,

but could be dist/marketed for needy in world

But America pay for waste as peop & nation

We talk inflation shortages, they present cause
is richness & greed

Js talked God aware of sorrows & needs, & how God
more concerned His children.

He tells God supply needs in life.

(David Brainerd tells God supply needs illustration)

This 1 ace, God supplied 4 his peop many centuries,

But He also expect man help dist. supply he give
mankind.

Next, we C God given His peop salvation.

He not only content merely supply comfort hrs need,

or supply material needs,

But had save them from themselves

His He promised would come thru David

His He did altho children Is. refuse accept Js

Hazareth as MESSIAH

"A Fistful Of Aces!"

Text: Exodus 14:8b, "And the children of Israel went
out with an high hand."

Scripture: Acts 13:13-33

In 2days mod world almost any 1 recognise ace hi ran
Military circles ace 1 overcome more of enemy
peop remark beloved true friend, Aces with me
thus signify he greatest

In card circles "Fistful of Aces" unbeatable

In Ex. 14:8b we read (read text)

I aware this no imply Isites cardplayers

Let us put this/this context this AM to simplify

In 13th chap Acts Paul's 1st sermon

P. & Barn come Antioch on Jew Sabb

After reading of law/prophets from sacred

scrolls, they invited speak

Paul was speak Jews/Jewish setting

words of sermtold history God done them as peop

He told them of unbelief in Messiah

Cannot know sure, but must been murmurings,

discontent as upstart preach stood B4 them &

tramped on toes.

I begin vs 17 tell God chose peop,

He quote Ex. 14:8, wrongly,

he often do this, quote memory & wrong

He convey message, but misquote

ACTS, vs 17 #1, #2 vs 18, #3 vs 19, #4 vs 20,
#5 vs 21, #6 vs 22, #7 vs 23, #8 vs 24-26.

Now this add up 8, only 4 in deck,

But God always give more than given Him

This lesson every Xpian should know,

cannot outgive God,

More U give, more He give U

Here in Acts 13, capsulated form history P

shared Jewish peop,

God given "A Fistful Of Aces"

From this portion scrip some things we can apply
present day & age.

See 1st God sufficient needs of all peop

(Illustration promises of God, Barnhouse)

G helps peop times stress to give calm assur He
there.

Thus God not only fulfilled prophecy by send 3/ ~~4~~
Son into world,

But He provide means salv 4 mankind which ours 4
So n all this we C not only provided Children is taking
down thru ages with "A Fistful Of Aces",
He also provided U & me with "A Fistful Of Aces
as well.

What He gave Ab, Is, Jac, Dave, Sol, P & others
is ours too

What a hand hold as go thru life

The Hand Of God, "A Fistful Of Aces"

Can U not C my friends that with all this we riche
any king ever reigned?

As "Children of Israel went out with an high hand,"
so can we by taking the Fistful Of Aces that God
extends to each His children.

2 Let us never forget that though life may have toll
troubles, we always have a Saviour that closer any
earthly friend,

3 we need thank God each day 4 Him,

4 He is God's Ultimate gift to our hand.

"A Fistful Of Aces!"

Text: Exodus 14:8b, "And the children of Israel went out with an high hand."

Scripture: Acts 13:13-32

In todays modern world almost anyone recognizes that an ace is the highest in rank. In military circles, an ace is one who has overcome more of the enemy than the rest of their comrades. People remark about ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ a beloved and true friend

~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ "He is aces with me," thus signifying that he is the greatest. In card circles, a ~~hand~~ "Fistful of Aces" is an unbeatable hand.

(Perhaps an illustration of card playing here)
a portion

In our Scripture this morning we read of Paul's first recorded sermon. Now it does not spell it out in this scripture, so I am taking what is known as literary license to make a comparison between this Scripture, and relate it to our day, our thinking, and to use something we can use to make it more understandable.

~~Exo~~ In Exodus the 14th chapter ~~and~~ latter part of the 8th verse we read, "And the children of Israel went out with an high ~~hand~~." Now I am well aware that this verse does not imply cardplaying on the part of the children of Israel. But let us just put it in this context this morning to simplify it for our understanding. Now this particular verse is quoted by Paul in the portion of Scripture we read this morning. In the 13th chapter of Acts, ~~xxxxxx~~ we read of Paul's first recorded sermon. Paul and Barnabas had come to ~~xxxxx~~ Antioch and went to the Synagogue on the Jewish Sabbath. After the reading of the Law and Prophets from the sacred scrolls, they were invited to speak as was the custom.

Paul was speaking to Jews in a Jewish setting and the words of his sermon first told of the history of what God had done for them as a people, and secondly he told them of their unbelief that the Messiah had come and lived among them. Now we do not read all of the ramifications of what Paul said, but one cannot help but feel there must have been some murmurings and discontent as this upstart of a preacher stood before them and tramped on their toes.

Paul begins (vs 17), by telling that God had chosen this people and had lifted them above the Egyptians among whom they lived. He tells them, quoting from Exodus 14:8, "And with an high arm brought he them out of it." We need to understand that many times Paul quotes Scripture from the Old Testament, but many times he misquotes it. Of all the Biblical personalities Paul is one who relies upon his memory for scripture and more often than not misquotes it. This is not to say that Paul was unable to convey the message because of this, it is merely to point out what he did on many occasions.

When God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt as Paul states it in vs 17, we could call this one ace. Ace 2 is vs 18, #3 vs 19, #4 vs 20, #5 vs 21, #6 vs 22, # 7 vs 23, #8 vss 24,25. Now perhaps you may be thinking that there are only 4 aces in a deck of cards, and you are right. But when we are talking about God, we must always remember that God does not act or do things as in a normal circumstance. God always gives back more than is ever given to Him. If there is one lesson that every Christian should and must be aware of, it is the lesson that you absolutely cannot outgive God. The more you give, the more He will give in return. And here in the capsulated history that Paul shared with these Jewish people, God has given the children of Israel "A Fistful of Aces."

Now from this portion of Scripture there are some things that we can apply to our present day and age. We see first that God is sufficient for all of the needs of His people.

(Illustration of the promises of God, from Barnhouse)

God helps His people in times of stress to give them His calm assurance that He is there. His promise that was imparted to us by His Son Jesus Christ was that He would not leave us comfortless. Thus we can see the evidence of the Holy Spirit in many areas of life if we are willing to place all aspects of our life in His hands.

Next we see that God supplies for the material needs of His children. For the Israelites this first took the form of supplying their needs in the wilderness for 40 years. Paul states it, "Forty years bore He their manners

in the wilderness." By this he means that God patiently listened to their grumblings and moanings about life and how it was treating them. And don't you imagine that God is still patiently listening to the grumblings and ~~groan~~ groanings of His people today? I am sure He is, but I am also sure that many times we are not the right kind of people to be grumbling and groaning because many times our problems are self-inflicted. A good example of this is the situation in many parts of the world.

(Illustration of living on 100 dollars a year)

This is a good example of what is happening in the world. We publicize this type of thing and we question why it is permitted, and why it happens, and all of the other things that remain unanswerable about it. Others may well question hunger and starvation in our world today by asking, "Is this an example of God giving Aces to His children?" Which is a good question, but the answer lies in within the inner circles of our denominations. We are more concerned with spending dollars in too many areas that should take secondary priority. Our government officials are more concerned about keeping the prices of certain commodities up, and the way to do this is to let certain crops rot, rather than have them marketed and distributed to the needy throughout the world. America is going to pay for its extreme waste as a people and as a nation, and rightly so. We talk of inflation and shortages, and they are present today, because of our selfishness throughout the world. Jesus talked of God being aware of the sparrow and its needs, and how God is more concerned over his children than the birds. David Brainerd was a missionary to the American Indians in the early days of our country. He tells the story of the ~~providence~~ God supplying his needs at one point in his life.

(Illustration #908 2400 Quotations, illustrations)

This is one of the aces God supplied for His people down through the many centuries, but He also expects man to help distribute this supply of what He has given for all mankind.

Next we see that God has given to His people Salvation. He was not content to ~~only~~ ^{be} be sufficient ^{to supply} for their ~~material~~ ^{comfort} needs, or to supply for their

material needs. But He had to save them from themselves. This He promised to do through His servant King David. And this He did, although the children of Israel refused to accept Jesus of Nazareth as the promised Messiah. ~~But this we can see from all of this that God~~ Thus God not only fulfilled prophecy by sending His Son into the world, but He provided a means of salvation for mankind, which is ours for the taking. So in all of this we can see that God not only provided the children of Israel down through the ages with "A Fistful Of Aces," but He also provided you and me with "A Fistful Of Aces," as well. What He gave to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, Solomon, Paul and all the rest is ours too.

What a hand to hold as we go through life. The Hand of God, "A Fistful of Aces." Can you not see my friends that with all of this we are richer than any king that ever reigned? As the "Children of Israel went out with an high hand," so can we by taking the Fistful Of Aces that God extends to each of His children. And let us never forget that though life may have its toils and troubles, we always have a Saviour that is closer than any earthly friend, and we need to thank God each day for Him, for He is God's ultimate gift to our hand.

Give the Lord with gladness
your offering with a glad
heart. ~~When you give, give with a glad heart.~~
A ~~Worship with praise~~

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCT. 6, 1974

COMMUNION SUNDAY - AMERICAN INDIAN SUNDAY

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR

MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST

MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR

PAULA STEPHENSON, BRIAN KENNEDY - ACOLYTES

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "KYRIE ELEISON" MOZART

"COMMUNION" GUILMANT

"IN HIS TEMPLE" BLAKE

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 470 "SAVIOUR, THY DYING LOVE"

*ABSOLUTION - CHORAL AMEN

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*INVOCATION

*PRAISE

*PASTOR - O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE - AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "GOD'S MORNING" CLARKE

ANTHEM: "O LORD, GIVE US ALL" JOHN LEWIS

*GLORIA PATRI

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES CREED)

COMMUNION HYMN No. 341 "HERE, O MY LORD"

*CALL TO COMMUNION - PAGE 32

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *INSTITUTION *AGNUS DEI

THE HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE RETAIN ELEMENTS UNTIL ALL

ARE SERVED)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - CHORAL AMEN

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 158 "WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDEROUS

CROSS"

*BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

*POSTLUDE "TE DEUM LAUDAMUS" NORDMAN

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MR. & MRS. LARRY R. FALKNER TO THE "GLORY OF GOD".

ELDER AND MRS. CHESTER STAUFFER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL

AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. SHARON STAUFFER,
LAUREL STAUFFER AND DEBBIE McBRIDE.

THE ELDERS AND DEACONS WILL SERVE AS USHERS TODAY.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. AMELIA DREHER,

MR. W. A. WINTERS, MISS CLARA SHAKELY.

MR. EVERETT McCANDLESS - WEST PENN HOSP. - PITTS.

MR. LEO BALDAUF - V.A. HOSPITAL.

MRS. NELLIE HUGHES WILL BE 93 TOMORROW, 103 MORTON
AVE. - SHE LIKES TO BE VISITED AND WOULD APPRECIATE
A CARD FROM YOU.

MRS. GRANVILLE COOPER WAS 77 YESTERDAY - IT IS STILL
NOT TOO LATE TO REMEMBER HER.

TONIGHT - 7:00 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP - EACH YOUTH IS

ASKED TO BRING A PAIR OF SCISSORS.

MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING.

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION COMM.

THURSDAY - 7:30 - BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND

ALL TEACHERS MEETING - UNDERCROFT - IMPORTANT.

NEXT SUNDAY - BAPTISM - SHOULD YOU WANT YOUR BABY
BAPTIZED AT THIS TIME - PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH
REV. LINK.

DON'T FORGET - TODAY IS AMERICAN INDIAN SUNDAY -

IF YOU FORGOT YOUR ENVELOPE - THERE ARE EXTRA ONES
IN THE NARTHEX.

IS IT SOUP YET? - NOT YET - HOWEVER, SOME INGREDIENTS

ARE STILL NEEDED. Did you read your NEWSLETTER?

11 QTS. OF STRING BEANS, ONIONS, CARROTS, CABBAGE

AND PARSLEY, ALSO FRESH TOMATOES FOR SALAD. GET

IN TOUCH WITH LOIS WOGAN (282-1032) OR MARY LOU

DAVIS (283-1182) IF YOU CAN SUPPLY ANY OF THESE.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM MOST ANYONE IN THE CIRCLES.

BAZAAR ITEMS ARE NEEDED - HANDWORK, BAKED GOODS,

CANDIES OR ANYTHING APPROPRIATE FOR THE BAZAAR TABLE.

THIS MONTH - ST. PAUL'S HAS CHARGE OF WHEELCHAIR

PATIENTS AT THE DESHON - CONTACT BILL PFLUGH IF YOU

COULD POSSIBLY HELP OUT - BEFORE AND AFTER THE 9:00

SERVICE AT DESHON V.A.

THERE WERE 191 PERSONS PRESENT LAST SUNDAY.

COMMUNION CARDS ARE IN THE PEWS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE

TO HAVE IT SENT TO YOUR HOME CHURCH (IF YOU ARE

VISITING) PUT THE NAME OF CHURCH AND ADDRESS ON CARD.

THE YOUTH CHOIR WILL BE STARTING FOR ANYONE IN GRADES

4 AND UP. PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE OFFICE.

Welcome visitors, please sign register.

Judy Vinroe birthday today.

"Do you believe?"

int: Heinrich 1:22

scripture: Hebrews 1:

(Jesus kills many people) time 4 kills, but we should

1:22 "Do you believe?"

1:23 "Do you believe?"

1:24 "Do you believe?"

1:25 "Do you believe?"

1:26 "Do you believe?"

1:27 "Do you believe?"

1:28 "Do you believe?"

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1:82 "Do you believe?"

1:83 "Do you believe?"

1:84 "Do you believe?"

1:85 "Do you believe?"

1:86 "Do you believe?"

1:87 "Do you believe?"

1:88 "Do you believe?"

1:89 "Do you believe?"

1:90 "Do you believe?"

CONFIDENTIAL

"Make Believe?"

Text: Hebrews 9:22, "Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

1973

In the April issue of AD magazine there was an article entitled ~~the~~ "The A, B, C's of Salvation", which was written by the Rev. Frederick Buechner, a Presbyterian minister. The article spelled out the different things about the Christianity using each letter of the alphabet for ~~each of the things~~ first letter of the doctrine or symbol used. For instance F was for faith, and ~~each of the things~~ L was for the Lord's Supper. Much of what he wrote I cannot agree with and in particular what he wrote of the Lord's Supper, is completely unacceptable to anyone I firmly believe. I must say in fairness to him that some of the things he wrote were right on and in line with what we should believe, and these points I can accept. But let me share with you what he wrote about the Lord's Supper.

(Quote his interpretation)

- After I read this I asked myself the question, "How can anyone, especially one who calls himself a minister of our Lord Jesus Christ, serving Him in the ministry of a church, believe this, or worse yet, put it down ~~for others~~ to help others to believe this way?" But shortly after reading this article, I received a letter from a friend of mine who is serving a three point charge in Edinburg, Virginia, that led me to believe that there are many Christians who are misinformed, or believe wrongly about what the Lord's Supper is. This friend wrote that at one of the Consistory meetings, the President of the Consistory made the remark, "Why we all know that Jesus was just giving God thanks for the food on the table, and having been allowed to be with such a wonderful gropp for three years."

Now if this is what communion^{really} means, then I believe we are celebrating it in the wrong manner. If this is all it is, or if it is "Make Believe" as Mr Buechner would have us believe, then I suggest we send some of the ladies downstairs to put on a pot of coffee, and get some rolls or doughnuts, and let's just sit around and drink coffee and eat rolls, and talk about inane

little things this morning.

But Communion is not either of these things I have quoted, and if any of us here this morning believe Communion to be this, then let me educate you as to what the Lord's Supper really is.

First, it was ~~instituted~~ instituted by Jesus Christ with His disciples to prepare them for His sacrifice. He did not explain everything to them in detail, but they got the point after He was taken out and killed. At the meal, "He took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said, 'Take and eat, this is my body which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of me.' In like manner he took the cup after they had supped, and He gave it to them and said, 'Take and drink, this cup is the New Testament of my blood which is shed for many for the remission of sins.'" Now please note, that Jesus was saying His body, and His blood were to be compared with the bread and wine. He set these two elements aside to be eaten and drunk as a symbol of Him and what He was about to do. He did not say that this Communion was "Make Believe" or that whenever it was observed ~~"The bread and the wine were actually His body and blood, but that they only represented His body and blood."~~ the bread and the wine were actually His body and blood, but that they only represented His body and blood. And this plump person who does not ~~xxx~~ smell of Aqua Velva, (because I do not use it), would never under any circumstances want you to make believe that I am Jesus Christ. This is an insult to Jesus Christ to ever believe that a human being ~~ix~~ could ever stand in His place, and besides that it is blasphemy.

Secondly, He said that the broken body, and the shed blood had the significance of being broken and shed for a specific purpose. And that purpose was, in His words, "For the remission of sins." In other words, He was giving His body and His blood, so that mankind could be forgiven of their sins. The author of Hebrews pointed out in our Scripture for this morning, (read the t t). What he was saying was that according to the old Hebrew Law, a sacrifice had to be made for the forgiveness of sins. In the case of offering up an animal it required that the animal had to give up its life, and the life of anything whether it be man or animal is the blood. It was the blood as they

considered it that kept life going and naturally when the blood was shed, life has been given up. Thus in the case of Jesus, He gave up His blood on Calvary and the sacrifice had been made. So with the shedding of His blood, there was now forgiveness of sins through Him,

Now, although He gave His body and His blood for the forgiveness of sins, and the price has been paid once and for all, the significance of this sacrifice is that in our lives we commit sins daily. So on certain occasions we meet together and we partake of the Lord's Supper, and it is at this time that we eat the bread and drink the cup, and as we eat and drink, we ask God to forgive us for the sins we have committed. But as someone was telling me just this past week, ~~xx~~ and I also heard one of my favorite radio preachers say it, we should not dwell on our past sins. We must come to Jesus accepting that He died for us, and this death when ^{we} ~~I~~ acknowledge Him, cleanses us from all our past sins. So when we hash and rehash all of the ~~things~~ sins of the past, we negate the sacrifice of Jesus. John tells us, "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Thus, come to Him and have your sins blotted out, washed away, and remembered against you no more. Come to His table and partake of the heavenly food prepared for you, and walk away from His table cleansed and made whole again.

This is the purpose of the Lord's Supper. For anyone to say we meet together to share our humanness, or to make believe that we are swallowing Jesus' life into our own, or to say that it is only a meal of fellowship and fun, is sheer nonsense.

We gather about the Lord's Table to come to God in humility and in penitence, to ask Him to ^{forgive us} ~~cleanse us~~ for our sins which we have committed since last we came to Him seeking forgiveness. We meet as common sinners. I am on the same level as you, and am just as great a sinner as any of you, and by the same token ~~there~~ none of you are any better than me or anyone else. We are common sinners who need this bread and this cup to cleanse us and make us whole again, and this we do "In remembrance of Him."

Jesus blood was shed for us, His body was broken for us. There could be

no forgiveness of sins if this had not taken place. This morning we would be killing and shedding the blood of some animal and offering it upon that altar as a sacrifice to God in hopes that we might be forgiven, if Jesus had not paid the price for us.

So make no mistake about it, the Lord's Supper is to be partaken of by those who come to have their sins forgiven. It is for penitent sinners, and not for any other purpose. The sacrifice of God's only Son was not "Make Believe," but was made for believers.

Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 13, 1974
REV. PALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
SHARI McBRIDE, ELLEN MASTER - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE MUSIC: "DREAMS" BIZET
"BENEATH THE ELMS" VEON

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 7 "REJOICE, YE PURE IN HEART"

*ASCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "GRACIOUS GOD, FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOU HAVE PROMISED TO RECEIVE US WHEN WE COME TO YOU. WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED. WE HAVE DISOBEYED YOUR LAW. WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU OR OUR NEIGHBORS AS WE SHOULD. FORGIVE US, O GOD, AND GRANT THAT WE MAY LIVE AND SERVE YOU IN NEWNESS OF LIFE; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATTHEW 23: 13-33

HYMN No. 252 "TAKE THOU OUR MINDS, O LORD"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

BAPTISM OF INFANTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "PETITE PASTORALE"

CAREY

ANTHEM: "I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY"

MEN'S CHORUS

SERMON: "ONLY A MOUTHPIECE"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 253 "TAKE MY LIFE, AND LET IT BE"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "RECESSIONAL"

BAPTISTE

*CONGREGATION STANDING

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MR. & MRS. ROLAND THOMPSON IN MEMORY OF ROLAND'S

"FATHER" MR. HOWARD THOMPSON.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, JOHN SNOW, MONT MACKINNEY, JAMES MALONEY AND STEVE VARGO.

ELDER ROBERT TAIT WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. BARBARA VARGO AND KAREN KENNEDY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 264.

THE AMOUNT OF \$162 WAS COLLECTED LAST SUNDAY FOR THE AMERICAN VETERAN - YOU CAN STILL PUT YOUR ENVELOPE IN THE COLLECTION ANY SUNDAY THIS MONTH.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. AMELIA DREHER - BCMH; MR. EVERETT McCANDLESS - WEST PENN HOSP. PITTS; MR. LEO BALDAUF - DESHON; PAMELA SUE GRAY BORN TO MR. & MRS. DONALD EUGENE GRAY JULY 26, 1974 AND KELLY SUE MANGEL BORN TO MR. & MRS. RICHARD MANGEL ON AUG. 23, 1974 - BAPTIZED TODAY.

TUESDAY - OCT. 15 - 5:00-7:00 - SOUP AND SALAD SUPPER PLEASE HAVE ITEMS FOR THE BAZAAR TABLE IN BY MONDAY AND NO LATER THAN TUESDAY MORNING. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM CIRCLE CHAIRMAN OR MOST ANYONE IN ONE OF THE CIRCLES.

WED. - 8:00 - GOLDEN CIRCLE - BIBLE STUDY WITH REV. LINK.

SIX (6) WOMEN ARE NEEDED FOR WHEELCHAIR AIDES AT THE DESHON FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF MONTH. CONTACT MARILYN STEPHENSON 287-7938 IF YOU CAN HELP.

MRS. LEO BALDAUF WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH FOR THEIR PRAYERS AND CARDS AND FOR REV. LINK'S VISITS - HER HUSBAND IS A PATIENT AT DESHON.

MRS. COOPER APPRECIATED THE BIRTHDAY CARDS SHE RECEIVED LAST WEEK FOR HER BIRTHDAY AND WANTED US TO THANK YOU.

*CHURCHES IN THE BUTLER AREA ARE SPONSORING SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES TO BE HELD IN CHURCHES AND HOMES.

"KICK-OFF" SUN. WILL BE OCT. 20. NORMA KNAUER IS SMALL GROUP CAPT. FOR OUR CHURCH AND AS SUCH WILL ORGANIZE OUR PARTICIPATION.

Welcome visitors, please come back

BETTY THOMAS HAS THE PETIT - PLEASE SIGN.

having continued protection of G. ~~xxxxxx~~ 2/
~~xxxxxx~~,
"let him will lean upon the Lord and say, Is not the
Lord among us? No evil can come upon us."

Micah confronts group & passes sweep judgement on
them all & their works and says,
"Therefore, shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a
field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the
mountain of the house as the high places of the
forest."

He tell them Zion/which Jerus be destroyed
This proph had nerve stand 4th & shout their nati
shrine be complete/utterly destroyed.
That it become like plowed ground
All homes... what hold dear ruined,
most of all this an affront to think beloved
city of have destroyed, & beloved temple as well.

1 oft repeated assurances of priesthood & proph's,
Jerus never destroyed.
G hate punish peop & sons & rain path on them,
but do never destroy Temp
Relig ldrs almost 2 man, certain Jerus never destr
Somehow I intervene & not let happen.
I can imag how well receiv this news was

But M. say ~~xx~~ 4 your sake,
Because of U this 2 happ
U R bring about, because of U this come pass
Picture if will how these peop must felt, hearing
distressing news.
As looked beaut bldgs, wonderful city, magnif Temp
it columns, courts/altars, & all be rubble

Could anyone bear this burden & even think this
wenton backst?
But we know in 586 city/temp burned
Micah's proph came true
and from this history U think Jewish peop learn
from experience
do not surpris in time Js, he lash out same think
same kind peop
But no need stop there/look our time/age we
see same peop.

In our nation sins larger cities/... sins smaller citi
increase large percent &e
Crime rate up, immorality rampant/- sin in gen
rage on all sides
not a challenge not to xpian 2days world

"Only a Mouthpiece!"

Text: Micah 3:11,12,
"...er heads judge for reward, and her priests teach
for hire, and her prophets living for money; yet
will they lean upon the Lord and say, Is not the
Lord among us? No evil can come upon us. Therefore
shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and
Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of
the house as the high places of the forest."

Question: What is pharisee?
most wood answer "Man who observed law."
Some wood say "men disliked/distrusted by Js & dis.
Both correct/but in fairness really relig peop
Is strict adher relig laws/princip/reguls is salva
then th's 1st in kingdom.

Problem they overzealous interpret letter of law
where they came conflict Js.
Scrip this M scorching denunciation these men,
they lead many astray doomed to hell, simply by
their interpretation of law.

But 3 centuries bef, man stood 34 leaders as well
as peop of ls & condemned 4 same things.
Naturally he n t speak same auth Js,
but his message similar & he speak 4 G.

Man named Micah, his message in 7 short chaps.
In 3rd chap 11,12 vs we read, (read text)

What Micah say it was money not princip guided leads
in dealings.

He refer judges accept bribes/rule in fa-or them
if s cater those can influence them most.
Pr keeper sacred law & also his duty reveal it to
peop thru words/& life
Proph's prophesy for money,
if person came gave money, then prophesy good
things that person.
They not seek truth as G reveal it, but speak
what they want hear.

Art of divining similar fortunetelling
Those divined told future by cast lots, watch birds
in flight.

Sort of like we amuse selves by tell it hard/easy
winter by stripes woolley worm, or by how early
birds go south etc.
But these peop no do amuse, but for money.
2 compound trub, they all do under guise relig

What chance 2 speak out gainst sin/corruption, 3/
just as Js & Micah did
We cannot overcome degeneracy by remain mute
We need instead become "Mouthpieces" as were for G.

What is "Mouthpiece?"

Several definitions

In ic circles, a Mpiece is object placed on end
instr.

When instr. played help make beaut music

But if Mpiece just lay shelf/table it "Only A Mpiece"

There 1 other Mpiece we refer in life 4

that is slang term we refer 2 in life & that lawye
A Mpiece this case, 1 who pleads case of another

& this what we as xpians must should do.

We 2 B mpieces of G.

This what Micah was & all other proph's

We 2 B proph's, not in sense Is, Jere, Ezek, etc,
but B Mpieces in that we speak out 4 G.

Hue & cry in nat. what wrong our country?

What happ leaders? Where we turn?

Answers 2 all quests remain each us individ

If not like what go on, (& all must agree we don't
then must speak out B herd

But again peop ask, "What can 1 person do?"

(Illustration one man in arenea)

Not many us have oppor make change in world,

But reform or reviv any kind begin 1 man.

Someone must start, & if 1 starts no know where end

1 mother Charleston W.Va, start campaign gainst
school books

Pe aps we need check our system, instead ask what
wrong with kids

We can speak out by let pres, congress know what we
want & do not want.

We can go out vote 2 elect rt peop officā

Black comic Dick Gregory say, "We can decide not to
be controlled by a few degenerate men," & he right

We can use voice thru pen as well as vocal

But we need B mpieces by all we say & do.

By live closer G we show word/deed we witnesses 4 Lor
in all of life.

Let us never thinkselfs be "Only A Mouthpiece" 4

we must B more than that. Anyone can B just that

unfort many xpians just this.

G. needs each & every 1 speak out/witness 4 Lord
all areas life.

Let us insted each b that mpiece makes us instr 4 G.

"Only A Mouthpiece!"

Text: Micah 3:11,12,

"Her heads judge for reward, and her priests teach for hire, and her prophets
vine for money; yet will they lean upon the Lord and say, Is not the Lord
among us, No evil can come upon us. Therefore shall Zion for your sake be
plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the
house as the high places of the forest."

Scripture: Matthew 23:13-33.

If I were to ask you, "What is a Pharisee?", most of you would answer
they were men who observed the law. Some of you would probably say that
they were men who were disliked and distrusted by Jesus and His followers.
Both answers are correct. But, we should first of all state in fairness to
them th t the Pharisees were the most religious people who ever lived. If
the strict adherence to rules and regulations and laws were salvation, then
the Pharisees would be the first in the kingdom. Their problem was they
became overzealous to interpret the letter of the law. Here is where they
came into conflict with Jesus Christ. We read as our Scripture a scorching
attack upon these men, and how they were leading many to be d omed to hell,
amply because ~~they~~ of their interpretation of the law.

But the really strange thing about all of this is that approximately 8
centuries before this a man stood before the leaders as well as the people
of Israel, and condemned them for the very same things. Naturally he did
not use the same language or speak out as authoritatively as Jesus, but his
message was similar, and he was speaking for God.

The mans name was Micah, and his message, ~~xxxxxxx~~ is to be found in 7
short chapters in the book named after him. The portion that I am making
reference to this morning is found in the 3rd chapter and ~~xxx~~ using the
11th and the 12th verses. We read there, (read text).

What Micah was saying was that it was money and not principle that guided
the leaders in their dealings. He is referring to judges accepting bribes
and for ruling in favor of those who could pay them the most. The priests
do takes to task because they cater to those who can influence them the most.
~~xxxxpriestxwasxpaidxbyxxxxxxx~~ A priest was the keeper of the sacred law,
and it was also his duty to ~~xxxxxx~~ reveal it to the people through his words

as well as by his life. The prophets were attacked by Micah because of the practice of prophesying for money. In other words if a person came and gave them a certain sum of money, then the prophet would prophecy good things for that person, not speaking the truth as God would reveal it through the prophet, but speaking what that person paid to hear. The art of divining was similar to that of fortunetelling. Those who divined told the future by casting lots, or observing flights of birds or some other things. It would be sort of like the amusing ways we tell it will be a hard ~~winter~~ or easy winter by the stripes on the wooly worm, or by how early the birds head South or some of the other things we use as guides. But these people did not do it out of amusement, but for money.

And to compound the problem Micah points out, they do all of this under the guise of being religious, and having the continued protection of God. "Yet will they lean upon the Lord and say, Is not the Lord among us. No evil can come upon us." So Micah confronts this group of leaders with their shameless and mercenary ways, and he passes a sweeping judgement on them ~~all~~ and on all their works. He says, "Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest."

He is telling them that Zion, which is another term for Jerusalem, will be destroyed. This prophet has the nerve to stand forth and shout that their beloved national shrine is to be completely and utterly destroyed. That it was to become just like plowed ground. All of their homes and things they own and hold dear. And most of all this an affront to even think of such dire circumstances for this is the City of David and the home of their beloved Temple.

One of the oft repeated assurance of the priesthood and of the prophets, was that Zion would not be destroyed. God might punish the people for their sins and rain his wrath upon them, but He would never destroy His Temple. The religious leaders ~~in~~ almost to a man, were certain that Jerusalem would

never be destroyed. Somehow or other God would intervene and not let this happen. So you can imagine how well received this bit of news was from this prophet.

But Micah pointed out in his words, "For your sake." Because of you, this is going to happen. You are bringing it about. Because of you this must come to pass. Picture if you will how these people must have felt when hearing this distressing news. As they looked about them at the beautiful buildings and wonderful city, with its magnificent temple with its stately columns and pillars, its courts and its altars, and all of this was going to be reduced to rubble. Could anyone bear this burden to even think of such wanton destruction? But we do know that in 586 BC the city and the temple were burned. Thus Micah's prophecy did come true. But even with all of this history behind them, you would think that the Jewish people would have learned from experience. ~~But Micah's prophecy did come true. But even with all of this history behind them, you would think that the Jewish people would have learned from experience.~~ ~~But Micah's prophecy did come true. But even with all of this history behind them, you would think that the Jewish people would have learned from experience.~~ So it is not surprising that in the time of Jesus He was lashing out at the same kind of thinking and the same kind of people. But one need not stop there, we only need look at our age and our times and we can see that we are still surrounded by these kinds of people.

In our nation today we see that the sins of our larger cities as well as the sins of our smaller cities have increased by a large percentage. The crime rate is up, immorality is rampant, and in general sin is raging on all sides. What a challenge that is set before the Christian in today's world, to speak out against the sin and corruption just as Jesus and Micah did. We cannot overcome sin and degeneracy by remaining mute. We need instead to become "Mouthpieces" as it were for God. What is a "Mouthpiece?" There are several definitions. But the one I like is the definition that is used as slang. A "Mouthpiece" according to this definition is a lawyer, or one who stands and pleads another's case. Micah pleaded God's case to the people. Jesus pleaded God's case to the people also.

that is
In musical circles a "Mouthpiece" is an object ~~when~~ placed on the end of an instrument, and the instrument is played it helps to bring forth beautiful music. But if the "Mouthpiece" is just lying on a shelf or table, it is just that, "Only A Mouthpiece." There is one other "Mouthpiece" that we refer to in life, and that is the ~~Mouthpiece~~ slang term we apply to a lawyer. A "Mouthpiece" in this case is one who pleads the cause of another. And this is what we as Christians are to be and do. We are to be "mouthpieces" of God. This is what Micah was, and all the other prophets. We are to be prophets, not so much in the sense as Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Micah and the others. But to be Mouthpieces in that we speak out and for God.

The hue and cry in our nation today is, "What is wrong with our nation?" What has happened to our leaders? Where are we to turn? "The answers to all of these questions remain with each of us undividually. If we do not like what is going on, and I think we can all agree we do not, then we must speak out and be heard. But again people ask, "What can one person do?"

(Illustration of man who braved the arena pg 86 Barclay, Matthew vol 2)

Not many or perhaps any of us may ever have this kind of opportunity to make changes in the world. But a reformation or revival of any kind, begins with just one man. Someone must start it. It can begin in a ~~home~~ private home, or where an individual works. But if one man or woman starts it, no one can ever know where it will end. A ~~group~~ mother in Charleston West Virginia questioned the textbooks this year that are authorized by the school board as required reading in the school. One mother against a school board. Changes are being instituted in the system there. Perhaps we need to question what is being taught in our schools here, to see if perhaps there are influences being exerted on our children that should not be exerted. We can speak out by writing our president and our congressmen to let them know how we feel. We can also speak out by voting. at some of the irresponsible things that are going on. ~~This is a mouthpiece and an effective one~~ The black comedian Dick Gregory says, "We can decide not to be controlled by a few degenerate men," and he

is right. We can use our voice through pen ~~and~~ as well as being vocal. But above all we need to also be "Mouthpieces" by all of what we say and do. By living closer to God we can show by word and deed, that we are the witnesses for our Lord, in all of life. But let us never think of ourselves as being ~~"Only A Mouthpiece"~~ "Only A Mouthpiece" for we must be more than that. Anyone can be just that, and unfortunately too many Xpians are just this. God needs each and everyone of us speaking out and witnessing about our Lord, "Mouthpiece" in all areas of life. Let us each instead, be that ~~instrument~~ that makes us an instrument for God.

OFFERING	TO HRY. & MARY AGENT STREET
OFFERTORY	"AUTUMN" STICKLES

REV. GRANVILLE COOPER WAS MADE CHAPLAIN OF SUNNYVIEW HOME. HE IS SO HAPPY AND WE ARE HAPPY FOR HIM.

NEXT SUNDAY - 3:00 P.M. - SPECIAL COMMUNION SERVICE FOR THE SHUT-INS, AT THE CHURCH.

from all this we gather jeal something from which 2 need 3 delivered 34 consumes individ completely & need leads dire circum.

C guilty overwhelm anger, read, "So 3 was very angry. Anger neither emot need control. Uncontrolled anger perhaps been reasons more deaths by injury any other emot. We hugo "Arise robs me of God, envy of my neighbor anger of myself."

From this short vs 3 inflame jeal/anger/consum anger 4 brother

So much so, he lured bros field kill him

C's action separate from G.

Even 2 this day when some 1 in wrongdoing what do say?

We say, "He/she raise 3," do we not?

Sometimes we laugh as tho funny which isn't.

We say bout young fellow, "Must sow wild oats."

or, "He must raise C."

But does he?

Is it us say boys 3 boys, or girls do those things is it us pass off sin this way?

Should we not instad 3 strive teach children/selves, "raise Abel?"

Wouldn't 3 better all concern we strove emulate good bros instad bad 1?

We all fall heir/sins flesh 3 cause 4 fathers, but just cause we heirs sin, does not mean we need wallow in it, 2 know what it is.

There those who lead us this kind think, because of we have all kinds loose living 2day.

We have free love/free sex/new morality 3 all other poor excuses flagrant sin which rampant on scene 2da

Yg peop ask us, "How can I know I can live with cort girl unless I 1st live 2gether no get married?"

We a told yg peop must experiment drugs know how to avoid them.

If we follow this equation to logical conclusion, I suppose I need go out rob bank know what steal is.

Or, I need murder some1 know what kill is,

All which make no more sense than other arguments can 3 used save conscience any1 who wants flagrantly do wrong 3 sin.

G. tell us thru 1. in romans, "The wages of sin is death."

This wert too place episode C. & A.

"Raising Abel!"

Text: Gen 4:5, "But for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry and his countenance fell."

Scripture Gen. 4:1-15

From story Cain/Abel lot said, lot left undaid we read 1st part 4th chap A Shepherd/Cain farmer 1 keeper sheep/other tiller of ground Both worthwhile reputable occupations.

Then read C brot offer fruit of ground

A bring 1stlings of flock as offer to G.

Read word had regard for A's offer, then "HEX" (read

several theories as why A accepted 3 C not

1st A brot animal offer 3 C did not

Animal could 3 sac 3 shed blood cleanse from sin

3 C brot grain/cereal offer 3 not proper offer

If theory correct, ask, "where does state C & A to bring animal offer?"

Answer: this not part text & not spelled out here.

2nd theory: A brot animal no spot bluish 3 C brot

second best of what he had.

This plausible - explain why G regard A, 3 not C.

Also from this we derive bring best to G.

Along all this we 3 logical progression sin in world in man life stemming from orig sin Ad/Eve in garden we read (Text).

thus 1st fruits sin

3 not only outward anger/but 3 hatred/jealousy all cause some 1 looked on more favor

Do not mean in ly 3 more special site of G, but must realize something A did placed his offer ahead of C's offer.

Hence, must believe A offer better than C.

If look C's feelings 3 they still with us 2day 1 need dealt with

3 must had intense feel jealousy 3 cause statement, "and his countenance fell."

Other words, he dissapointed cause offer no receive like A's

Thus 3 give vent intense feel if left uncontrollably gnaws/eats persons very insides erupts flagrant act to person whom directed

Thus dict define Jeal as some1 who resentful/envious Chrysostom "As a moth gnaws a garment, so doth envy consume a man."

& whether we admit or not, it happens in lives
each us, when we disobey God have us do,

3

(Illustration Leonardo DeVinci & 2 models)

We may think no pay penalty sin, but we do
from this illus we C sin leaves mark someway upon
soul.

Perhaps it not always evident exterior phys featur
but distorts/wrinkles/twists/warps soul.

But prob with man always been he equates life that
of others.

We look life of C exclaim, "I do things that wrong,
but I no guilty murder my bros."

Perhaps not, but we can B so overcome jeal, we defame
some1 life/character we all but kill physically.

We may show so much hatred 2 nother, we not only fil
selves such poisonness thots that stunt Xpian growth
but may unwittingly cause some1 do something rash
by our rumors or gossip.

We may Bcome so filled anger we provoke some1 lash
out 2 nother in violent words/deeds.

Yes, may not be guilty as C,
but we all capable his deeds in diff ways equal dedly

But as all such area life, there chance live act as
should.

We need not resign selves be separated from G as C
4 even tho C bansih from presence of G, still he
no destroyed,

This indication G ~~not~~ will destroy His creation.

We may assur. pardon, "G has no pleasure deth of
wicked, but that wicked turn from his way & live."

This only poss by come 2 Xp. confess sin & trust
him 4 forgiveness,

But also means we each must begin "Raising Abel," in
lives, insted "Raise Cain."

Anyone can "Raise Cain" but takes person wants live
as Xpian to "Raise Abel. ~~A person who follows Jesus~~

& thus by "Raising Abel" we show we followers Xp.

& we can not only live this way in our lives, but
we can pass it on 2 our fams,/friends.

Let us all strive live anew by "Raising Abel."

"Raising Abel!"

Text: Gen. 4:5, "But for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry and his countenance fell."

Scripture Gen. 4:1-15

(Joke or illustration to begin)

From the story of Cain and Abel there is a lot that is said, but there is also a lot that is left unsaid. We read in the first part of this 4th chapter how Abel was a keeper of sheep and Cain was a tiller of the ground. One is a shepherd and one a farmer. Both worthwhile and reputable occupations. Then we read how Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground and Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock as an offering to God. Then we read that the Lord had regard for Abels offering, but that He had no regard for the offering of Cain. There have been several theories presented as to ~~why~~ how and why the Lord would regard one and not the other. The first theory is that Abel brought an animal offering that could be sacrificed, and it required the shedding of the animals blood for the cleansing of sin, and since what Cain brought was probably cereal or grain as an offering, it was not the proper type of offering. Now if this theory is correct we must ask the question, "Where does it state that Cain and Abel were told to bring an animal offering?" The answer of course is that this is not a part of the text, and it is not spelled out as such.

A second theory advanced is that what Abel brought was an animal without spot or blemish and what Cain brought to be offered to the Lord was less than the very best fruit of the ground. This is a more plausible explanation and would explain why God would have regard for the offering of Abel and not have regard for the offering of Cain. ~~This~~ It is also from this theory that we derive our thinking about bringing the very best we have to God.

But along with this we can also see the logical progression of sin in ~~w~~ world and in the life of man, stemming from the original sin of Adam and Eve in the garden. We read in the 5th verse, "But for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry and his countenance fell." Thus we see the firstfruits of sin. We see not only outward anger, but we see

hatred and jealousy as well, & All because someone is looked upon with more ^{do} honor. Now I ~~would~~ not mean to imply that Abel was more special in the sight of God, and thereby received special recognition, but by this story we must realize that something Abel did, placed his offering ahead of that of Cain. Hence, we must believe that on the strength of what we read, Abel's offering must have been better than that of Cain. If we look at the progression of feelings that Cain must have lived through, we can see that each one of them is still with us today and need to be dealt with in our lives.

Cain must have had an intense feeling of jealousy because of the statement, "and his countenance fell." In other words he was dissatisfied ~~in~~ because his offering was not received by God in the same as Abel's. Thus Cain was giving vent to an intense feeling that if left uncontrolled, gnaws and eats at a person's very insides until it erupts in some flagrant act toward the person to whom it is directed. Webster's dictionary defines jealousy as someone who is "resentful, or envious." St. Chrysostom says, "As a moth gnaws a garment so doth envy consume a man."

From all of this we can readily gather that jealousy is something from which we need to be delivered before it consumes the individual completely and leads to dire consequences.

Cain was guilty of an overwhelming hatred for his brother ~~xx~~ for we read, "So Cain was very angry." Anger is another emotion that needs to be controlled. Uncontrolled anger has perhaps been responsible for more deaths and bodily injury than perhaps any other emotion. Victor Hugo once said, "Pride robs me of God, envy of my neighbor, anger of myself." So from this one short verse we can see that Cain became inflamed with jealousy, anger and a consuming hatred for his brother. So much so, that he lured him out into a field and killed him. Thus we can see where Cain's actions separated him from God. And even to this day what is it we say when someone is involved in flagrant wrongdoing? We say he or she is "Raising Cain" do we not? Sometimes we accompany the statement with laughter as though it is something funny, which it isn't. We say of a young fellow that "He has to sow his wild

But the problem with man has always been that he equates his life with that of others. ~~Man~~ We look at the life of Cain and we exclaim, "I may do things that are wrong, but I've never been guilty of murdering my brother. Perhaps not, but we can be so overcome with jealousy that we defame someone's life and character, that we all but kill them physically. We may show so much hatred toward another person that we not only fill ourselves with poisonous thoughts that stunt our Christian growth, but we may unwittingly be responsible for someone else doing something rash by our rumors or gossip. We may become so filled with anger that we provoke someone to lash out to another in violent words or deeds. Yes, we may not be as guilty as Cain, but we are all capable of his deeds in a different ways that are equally as deadly.

But as in all such areas of life there is a chance to live and act as we should. We need not resign ourselves to being separated from God, as ~~as Cain~~. For even though Cain was banished from the presence of God, still he was not destroyed, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ This is an indication that God is not willing to destroy his creation. We say in the assurance of pardon that God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked should turn from their way and live. This is only possible by coming to Christ, confessing our sin and trusting Him for forgiveness.

But it also means that we must begin ^{each} ~~xxxxxx~~ "Raising Abel" in our lives instead of "Raising Cain." Anyone can actually "Raise Cain", but it takes a person who wants to live as a born again believer to "Raise Abel." And thus by "Raising Abel" we show that we are followers of Christ, ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ ^{live this way} And we can not only ~~xxxx~~ then in our lives, but we can pass it on to our ~~friends and relatives~~ families and friends, ~~and help others~~ Let us all strive to live anew, by "Raising Abel."

As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are
the sons of God.
The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit
that we are the children of God.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 27, 1974
YOUTH SUNDAY

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
PAULA STEPHENSON, BRIAN KENNEDY - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "AUTUMN" CHAMINADE
"HE THAT BELIEVETH" FRICK

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 43 "WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES"
*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, WHO HAST
SET US IN COMMUNITIES, AND BOUND US TOGETHER BY COMMON
DUTIES AND SYMPATHIES, WE LIFT OUR HEARTS TO THEE AND
PRAY WITH ONE ACCORD THAT THOU WOULDST SEND THY BLESSING
UPON OUR CITY AND NATION, PROSPERING EVERY HONEST MAN,
SWEEPING AWAY EVERY TEMPTATION TO EVIL, DELIVERING THE
WEAK OF OUR PEOPLE FROM INTemperance AND VICE OF EVERY
KIND, FEEDING MEN'S HANDS WITH LABOUR AND THEIR MOUTHS
WITH BREAD, AND SPREADING THROUGH EVERY HOME THY LOVE
AND KNOWLEDGE, THAT WE MAY PRAISE THEE EVERMORE THROUGH
JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: ROMANS 5: 1-11

HYMN No. 282 "FAITH OF OUR FATHERS!"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (STATEMENT OF FAITH)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "CHORALE"

BLAKE

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

ANTHEM: "THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS" SCHOLTES

HOWARD BOLAM - GUITAR; ROLAND THOMPSON, SAXAPHONE.

SERMON: "WHY REFORM?"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 281 "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR
GOD"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ALLEGRO RISELUTO" WILSON

----- * CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MR. LLOYD FRENCH IN MEMORY OF HIS "WIFE" - GERTRUDE
FRENCH.

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: "RAYMOND COVERT, ROBBIE
VINROE, ROBERT DELLEN, BRIAN PFAHE AND STEVE SMITH.
DEACON AND MRS. CHARLES PENAR WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL
AT THE DOOR TODAY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 217.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. LINDA McMILLIN,

MRS. JANE ARMSTRONG AND LIZ ARMSTRONG.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. ELIZABETH CLARK, MR. MIKE NAZARUK,
BCHM; MRS. VONNIE PAYNE - JAMISON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,
NEW CASTLE, PA.; MR. EVERETT McCAWLESS - WEST PENN.
HOSP. PITTS.

TODAY - 3:00 P.M. SPECIAL SERVICE FOR SHUT-INS

AND COMMUNION - ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND MAY DO SO.

WE WELCOME INTO OUR FELLOWSHIP TODAY:

BY PROFESSION OF FAITH:

MR. & MRS. JOHN STEVENSON, 429 MILLER ST.

MRS. ROSE McFEATHERS, 435 NEW CASTLE ST.

BY LETTER OF TRANSFER:

MR. ROBERT WEIBENSTEIN, 120 CORNELL DRIVE

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY WILL BE OBSERVED ON FRIDAY, NOV.

1, AT THE GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, AT 7:30 P.M. THE

SUBJECT, "THEY HAVE A DREAM", WILL BE DEVELOPED BY

MRS. OAKLEY WEAVER. THE PROGRAM IS SPONSORED BY THE

WOMEN'S COMMISSION OF THE GREATER BUTLER AREA COUNCIL

OF CHURCHES.

WE WELCOME THOSE VISITING WITH US TODAY, AND ASK THAT
YOU SIGN THE GUEST REGISTER TO THE LEFT OF THE NAVE.

3156 ST. JEFF. MURPHY KRAVER

This caps form what set stage 4 Luth.

2

Luth had want him be lawyer.

yth start out this direction

2 events change this,

1. good friend die short after grad Erfurt Univ
this shook yg Luth

2. walk forest thunder storm, narrowly escape
deth, on knees pray St. Ann, "Help me dear St.
Anne, I will become a monk."

Thus enter Augustinian monastery Erfurt

Luth in turmoil all monastic life

search peace soul/concern no do enuf in Gr. of G

He say, "If a monk could have gone heaven by his ob-
servance of monastic vows, I would have been the 1."

prayed earnest/went mass, conf, used all means B devout
yet thru all this he no certain love G & 4give sins

He obtained priesthood & celebrate 1st mass time
anxiety 4 him.

His sense unworthy & fear commit griev sin by
make mistake gripped him.

Perhaps Cath doc elements did this.

At pt in consec wine/blood & bread/flesh

This frighten Luth handle flesh/blood/Jesus

Become prof travel Rome.

fall around "Hail holy Rome."

looked admir St. Peters, & looked spiritual bless

Said later wished parent ded, could pray out purg

Con Paul told Luth climb dilate stairway on knees

& while do this words Paul ring in ears, "The just
shall live by faith."

His what start him on ref.

Also how priests act Rome convince him ch. need ref.

hurried thru mass/made joke of it

Latin lang & consec, bred thou art/bred shall rema

still came home devout son of church.

Little by little became alarmed conditions of ch.

saw peasants bilked of money, went bild St. Peters

Indulgences/pay 4 4giveness sins/over future Basil

Tr. Merits/sts, Js Xp stored/peasants bot

Coun Worms/ promised safe conduct pass

friends kidnapped B4 coun could nab.

while at Coun make famous remark, "I cannot do

otherwise. Here I stand. God help me."

this story N. Luth,

but is story finished? I think not.

"Why Reform?"

Text: Romans 5:1,

"Therefore, since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Js Xp."

Scripture Romans 5:1-11

4 1st few yrs ref. Coun. played down

partic story of M. Luther & how came about
reason; "Ecumenical Movement."

not in best interests 2 play up ref,

Rom Cath involved & no want offend.

We wrote at times looked down nose at Rom Cath

we think Luther 1 us, not them

but Luth no want break with church, just ref.

ref start Wittenburg Germ 1517, at least we think

but actually start long 4 that in 910

many devout men want cleanse ch. within,

Luth got started big way, thus he get credit.

ref start monastery Olmutz, West Pr.

purpose ref, save clergy/monks more pious/moral,

& more concerned relig things life, instead/secula

movement spread til engulf all clergy by 1st

half 11th c.

Around 1044 papacy had 3 ref.

3 ropes each 1 claim real 1

this split church.

Germ Emp. Henry III settle, choose 1

then Span. Ing. & own brand ref.

what start means separate believer/unbeliever,

turn in2 means torture peop extract conf. heresy

J. Wyclif eng. bib scholar this time/ref. also

he oppose wealth ch/interfere clergy political li:

in partic oppose interfere pope

he translate bib Latin/eng 1382 - 1384

Students Bohemia study Oxford while he teach

they return native land spread doc. beliefs Wyclif

Jn Huss become follow Wyclif by agree theo works

this put him disfavor with ch.

he summoned Coun. Constance answer charge &

promised safe conduct pass.

Some listen charges note Wyclif influence

Wyclif found guilty heresy & long ded body ordered

drag up and burned at stake.

this done, & Jn Huss found guilty/condem/burned

so Huss exec. ch. thru nother agitator

4 I Believe prot ch verge ref diff sort 3
Ecumen move was strong & all denom press 2 it
Was called COCU
slowly/surely many denom stop think

Our UCC in 4front & push again
I see grave danger in it.
Danger lies hierarchy setup N.Y. & assume ident of
...shingness
I Believe very sincerely each denom need ref self
I would like see happen UCC

UCC Bcome ^{person of THE} Social Gospel ~~oriented~~. **EMPHASIS**
If minister protest quest ask, "Why Reform?"
Are we not doing bidding Xp, we feed/clothe/free
from prison/amnesty so forth.
Why Ref. when we on rt track?

But are we?
I realize must take car phys needs,
but 1st 4most, must start hart & soul of indiv,
& when they ref automat look out bros.

Js not instruct follows go & feed world,
Insted, "Go and make disciples all nations"
He tell follows make more follows Js Xp
A follow Js Xp accepts Him by faith & good works
naturally follow

This message Luth had given him that start ref
I sure fellow clergy say, "Why ref Martin?"
Let's keep things as is, /a good thing do not spoil/
keep peasants ignor & work for salv/& there is
then plenty for all of us.

But Luth not content have hierarchy off somewhere
to rg from peasants & keep they ignor of salv.
Luth determ he chosen vessel of his time 2 show
peas salv free for taking & only faith 2 receive it
(Illustration: Faith, vision of)

This must been vision Luth had,
That throne Rome, kingdoms run by clergy toppled
& Js reign supreme all lives thruout world.

This vision U & I need present world
We need B ref own rt.
Refs nation/state/city/neighborhood/selves

2 2 quest. "Why Ref?" many might ask,
answer always must B,
"Because Js Xp demand this of me, & I must B bring
others 2 Him, if I really love Him."
May I give each hart ~~xxxx~~ mind of ref. ~~4-52~~

"Why Reform?"

Text: Romans 5:1, "Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Scripture: Romans 5:1-11

For the past few years, Reformation Sunday has been played down, and in particular, the story of Martin Luther and how it all came about. The reason being, that the church throughout the world has been involved in what has been called "The Ecumenical Movement," and it was not in the best interests of this movement to play up the Reformation, since the Roman Catholic church has been involved in this movement along with all of the Protestant bodies.

A part of this thinking has been due to the fact that we of the Protestants have had a tendency to look down our noses at our Roman Catholic brethren. We claim Martin Luther as one of us and not one of them. But the truth of the matter has always been that Martin Luther never had any intention of leaving the Roman Catholic church, and only did so reluctantly when he could do nothing else.

The Reformation as we know it was started in Wittenburg Germany in the year 1517 when Martin Luther posted his ninety five theses on the door of the cathedral there. But actually the Reformation did not start in 1517, but had its start in the year 910. Before Luther ever came upon the scene there were many devout men who tried to reform the church from within, but because Luther was able to get it started in such a big way, he received all the credit for it.

The Reformation started in the Monastery at Cluny in Western France, The purpose of the reform was to make the clergy and the monks more pious, more moral, and more concerned with the religious things of life instead of the secular things of the world. The movement spread until it engulfed all of the clergy by the first half of the 11th century.

Then around 1044 the Papacy itself had to be reformed for at this time there were three popes, each one claiming to be the real one. This really split the church asunder. Finally the issue was settled by the German

Emperor Henry III., by his selection of one over the others. It was after this that the Spanish Inquisition came along with its own brand of reform. What started out to be a means of separating the believers from the unbelievers turned into a means of torturing people to extract confessions of heresy from them. John Wycliff of England not only was a great biblical scholar at this time, but he was also a reformer. He opposed the wealth of the church and the interference of the clergy in political life. In particular he opposed the interference of the Pope. He translated the Bible from the Latin into English between 1382 and 1384. Some students from Bohemia studied at Oxford when Wycliff lectured there. They returned to their native land and spread the doctrines and writings of Wycliff. John Huss became a follower of Wycliff by his agreement with the theological works of Wycliff. This put him in disfavor with the church and he was summoned by the Council of Constance to answer their charges under the safety of a safe conduct pass.

The Council listened to the charges against him, and in particular noted the influence of Wycliff in his life. ~~They ruled that the long dead body of~~ They found John Wycliff guilty of heresy and ordered that his long dead body be dug up and burned at the stake. So the bones of Wycliff were dug up and burned as ordered by the Council. They found John Huss guilty of heresy as well and condemned him to be burned at the stake as well. So Huss was executed and the church had removed another agitator from its midst. This in capsule form is what set the stage for Martin Luther to come upon the scene.

If the father of Luther had had his way, there would have been no reformation at least as we know it today, for he wanted his son to be a lawyer. Luther, in deference to his father started out in this direction, but two events led to his changing his course and studying to be ~~an~~ a priest. The first event was that one of his very closest friends died shortly after Luther's graduation from Erfurt University. This shook the young Luther very visibly. The second event took place as he was walking through a forest between Erfurt andisleben. While in this forest a severe thunderstorm arose and Luther became terrified by the crashing lightning all around him. He

narrowly escaped death, and fell to his knees and prayed to one of the patron saints of his childhood. He cried out, "Help me, dear St. Anne, I will become a monk." And it was with this assertion that he entered the Augustinian cloister at Erfurt.

But Luther was in a turmoil all of his monastic life. He was searching for peace of soul and was concerned that he could not do enough to be in the Grace of God. He himself once remarked, "If a monk could have gone to heaven by his observance of monastic vows, I would have been the one." He prayed earnestly and went to mass and confession and used all of the means of being devout, yet through all of this he could not be certain of the love of God and the forgiveness of his sins. He was ordained to the priesthood and the celebration of his first mass was a time of great anxiety for him. His sense of unworthiness and a fear of committing a grievous sin by making even the smallest mistake gripped him.

Perhaps the Catholic doctrine of the elements had something to do with this. At a point in the consecration of the elements they believe that the wine becomes the blood of Christ, and the bread becomes His flesh. This is what frightened Luther, that at the handling of Christ's body and blood he might make a mistake in handling this Holy of Holies.

It was after he became a professor that he had the opportunity to travel to Rome. When he arrived he fell to the ground and exclaimed, "Hail, Holy Rome. He looked with admiration upon St. Peter's, and he looked for the spiritual blessing he felt he would receive there. He said later that while there he wished his parents were dead, because he felt certain that he could have prayed them out of purgatory, with his prayers while there.

Paul
His son told the story how ~~his~~ his father is supposed to have climbed the stone stairs known as "Pilates Stairway" upon his knees. And while doing

As the words from Paul's letter to the Romans rang in his ears, "The just shall live by faith." This is what started him upon the Reformation. But it was also how the priests acted in Rome that convinced him the church needed reformed. During mass they hurried through it, and they made a joke of the

consecration of the elements. The mass was entirely in Latin, and most of the people did not know Latin, and so the priests chanted the words, "bread you are and bread you shall remain," instead of the proper words for this part of the mass.

But still Luther returned home a devout son of the church. But little by little he became alarmed at the conditions of the church. He saw the poor peasants of his parish being bilked of their money in the sale of indulgences. The money thus derived went to build St. Peter's basilica. The indulgences consisted of a piece of paper paid for by the individual peasant, which gave them the forgiveness of a certain sin. They could even buy forgiveness of a sin they would commit in the future. For instance, if they felt they might steal a loaf of bread in a day or so, they could buy an indulgence and this forgave them for that future sin.

But worse yet, was the treasury of merit. This was a sort of bank in which the unused merits of Jesus and the saints were stored. It worked like this: Jesus and the saints lived such exemplary lives, that they were unable to use all of the goodness in their lives. Thus these leftover merits of Jesus and the saints could be sold to a person, thus giving him some needed merits for his life. For a small sum they could purchase some merits to last them for a certain length of time. Then when he could afford more, he went and bought more. So you see, this is what Luther lashed out against.

But as I said before, Luther did not wish to break with the church, but merely to reform it. But due to the stubbornness of Pope Leo X. the situation got out of hand and Luther was forced to make the break.

Luther was promised a safe conduct pass to a Council to be held at Worms, but due to the quick thinking of some of his friends his life was spared, as they kidnapped him before the Council could seize him and execute him. It was while at the Council that Luther made his classic remark when he was asked to recant all that he had said and done. He stood before them and boldly stated, "I cannot do otherwise. Here I stand. God help me." This then is the story of Martin Luther. But is this story finished? I think not.

For I believe the Protestant church is standing on the verge of a Reformation, but of a different sort. I mentioned before ~~about~~ the so called "Ecumenical Movement" which is going on in the church at large. At one point there was a very strong tendency for all of the denominations to press for this gigantic merger which was called, "The Consultation On Church Union." But slowly ~~xx~~ and surely, many of the denominations have slowed down to a crawl. Our United Church of Christ has come to the forefront again and is pushing very strongly for this merger. But I see a very grave danger in it.

The danger lies in the fact that a hierarchy will be set up in New York and we will all assume one identity and it will be an identity of nothingness. I believe very sincerely that each denomination needs to Reform itself, and I for one would like to see this happen in our own UCC. I say this because we have become a denomination of "Social workers." But when a ~~xxx~~ minister protests this, the question is raised "Why Reform?" Are we not doing the bidding of Christ when we feed, and clothe people, and when we free them from prison and resist the death penalty, and seek amnesty for draft evaders and deserters?" "Why reform ~~xx~~ all of this, because we are on the right track?"

But are we? I realize that we must take care of the physical needs of people everywhere. But of first and utmost importance is to start with the heart and soul of the individual and when we have reformed this part of them, then they will automatically look out for the needs of their brothers. Jesus did not instruct his followers to go out and feed the world. Instead He said, "Go and make disciples of all nations." He was telling them to make the people followers of Jesus Christ. And a follower of Jesus Christ accepts Him by faith, and then good works follow. This was the message that was imparted to Martin Luther that started the Reformation. I am sure his fellow clergy said to him on different occasions, "Why Reform, Martin? Let things as they are. We have a good thing going don't spoil it. Let's keep these peasants ignorant, and working for their salvation, and that way there is plenty in it for all of us." But we know that Luther was not content to have a hierarchy off somewhere

bilking the peasants and keeping them ignorant as to what salvation really was. Luther was determined that he had been the chosen vessel of his time to show the peasants that salvation was free for the taking, and only faith was involved to receive it.

Someone once penned the lines, (Faith, vision of)

This is the vision that Luther had, that thrones of Rome, and kingdoms run by the priests would be toppled and Jesus Christ would reign supreme in all lives, throughout all of the world.

This is the vision that you and I need in our present day world. We need to be reformers in our own right. Reformers of our nation, of our state, of our city, of our neighborhood, and of ourselves. And to the question, "Why Reform?", that many would ask us, the answer always must be, "Because Jesus Christ demands it of me, and I must be bringing others to Him if I really love Him." May God give us the heart and mind of the reformer.

TRINITY CHURCH
NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA.

CHRIST CHURCH
DUNCANNON, PA.

TRINITY CHARGE

The United Church of Christ

REV. RALPH C. LINK, Pastor
119 West Main Street
NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA. 17068

Phone: 582-7498

"A Personal Church!"

Text: Matt. 16:13-20
 "And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Order: 1st at 14:13-20

In scrip 2day we read Js inquir His discs bout self
 He got 2 find out who peop say He is
 this famil stryxxx I sure most herd B4

Let outspok disc always quik answer once again not fail master, blurt out, "Thou art the Christ, the son of the Living God."

Surprisly had rt answer & Js tells so,
 I say surprisly cause when look other incidents,
 let put foot in mouth many time

In next chap let in Transfig/3 booths/Mos, Mlig, Js
 same pet want walk water/did & lost faith
 told Js He not B killed/ridicul/suffer,
 told by Js, "Get behind me Satan."
 " " out off ear servant Hi fr. Geth.
 " " promise never deny Js./told would/he deny3
 " " ~~xxxxxxx~~ come sep look 4 Js

Mark acct Mesur say, "But go your way, tell his
 disciples and Peter, that he saith B4 U into Galilee
 this signif pet single out Xp ch built

From remain hist pet we know he Bcome rock ~~xxxxxxx~~
 This wish/wash/inset/quest/seemingly unstable
 fisher Bcame what Js predicted

But if we remem all scrip Js associates unlikely
 characts, cannot help think Js must seen in pet
 qualities that only needed polish/aging, that life
 & experience give.

Js took as was even when pet no Blieve in self
 "molded/shaped by constant instruct when necess
 "scolded/reproved when needed & used all doft
 ways to slowly/surely change & alter charac

sh ch prove Js know human charac better anyone
 thus from common/ordinary/unchooled/unconouth man
 been found inst which withstood storms time/history
 This only poss cause inst founded on weak man,
 empowered by Js Xp himself.

I members this wonder body know Xp's church
 in recent conver little old lady, (no one here)
 she start say my church but change our church

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord,
 all the earth!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

FORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 27, 1974
 REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
 MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST

ORDER OF WORSHIP 3:00 P.M.

PRELUDE
 HYMN No. 31 "FATHER, AGAIN IN JESUS' NAME WE MEET"
 ASCRIPTION
 INVOCATION
 SCRIPTURE MATTHEW 16: 13-20 *KIM JAMES*
 ANTHEM
 SERMON: "A PERSONAL CHURCH!"
 GLORIA PATRI
 AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES CREED)
 COMMUNION HYMN 204 "BREAK THOU THE BREAD OF LIFE"
 CALL TO COMMUNION - PAGE 32
 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER - INSTITUTION - AGNUS DEI
 THE HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE RETAIN ELEMENTS UNTIL
 ALL ARE SERVED)
 PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
 HYMN OF DEDICATION 158 "WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDEROUS
 CROSS"
 BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN
 POSTLUDE

THE CONGREGATION IS ASKED TO REMAIN SEATED FOR THE
 ENTIRE SERVICE. ONLY THE PASTOR AND THE CHOIR
 MEMBERS WILL RISE.

WE WELCOME EACH OF YOU TO THIS SPECIAL SERVICE TODAY.
 OUR DESIRE HAS BEEN TO MAKE IT A MEANINGFUL SERVICE
 FOR YOU. OUR PRAYER IS THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
 TRULY WORSHIP GOD, AND THAT HIS BLESSING MAY GO WITH
 YOU.

*to lead to love I - P. Link, M. Stephenson
 and the A. C. Stephens in the name of
 the Father, Amen.*

But he also left us something very meaningful
in life believer

He left men his body & blood.

The Sacra word's Supp in other words

1c in this Sacra we each come 2 Him anew,
& once again ask Him 4 forgiveness our sins

It is so fitting this day which ch took on new m an
we can assem like this & observe the Sacra with
those of U who mostly cannot reg partic in service
each week.

So let us now come His table & partake His Supper.

Perhaps if we talked to Js as Rev. Noratus Bonar
did in faml Communion hymn, we could really come
to feel & know His presence as we sit at His table.

Mr. Bonar spoke:

This is the hour of banquet and of song;

This is the heavenly table spread for me:

Here let me feast and feasting still prolong

The brief bright hour of fellowship with thee.

Let us pray.

perhaps feel wrong say this

word Church in catechism "A body of believers in
Christ, an assembly of peop. cong, society."

I say, "where 2 or 3 gathered in My name, there am
I in the midst of them."

2 B gathered together His name, means assem His purpo
wher. He obtained.

Christ ordained church

there4 it organ thru which His truths proclaimed

It bear witness His life/teach/ministry/deth/
resur/ to His sacrif for all mankind

The ch. must ever proclaim Js as Lord & Sav,

must always ~~witness~~ bear witness to Xp,
& bring others 2 worship with corporate body believe

Is signif note Js seldom use word MY

But when did, it My Father, My Friend, My church.

His true possess Father, friends, & church

It not wrong say My Church as long as never become

possessi e & consider it Blong 2 us

We can use word MY when truly accept Xp as Sav,

& join in fellowship of ch.

Then it MY Church, & really Blong 2 us

Because we part of it

U peop had lot 2 do with furthering this ch.

perhaps we shud say congreg

Thru U efforts we now position 2 lead/have house
worship U.

Thus we can call St. Paul's My Church

there4 fitt on Ref Sun we pay trib 2 all who labored
ma this ch, ch of Js Xp.

were it not 4 those who valian plann/labored, we
could not worsh this after

But in pay trib 2 any1 U it indiv or group,
there alway danger 4geting real purpose served by
a group or indiv.

This instance we shud much moreso pay trib Js Xp
as founder ch, as well each indiv cong

M. Ruth may B respons Ref, & our 4fathers may found
St. . in Butler, & many J as well as fams may have
toiled & labored this vineyard.

But it is 2 Js Xp that we must give comp honor 4
The Church at large which we can call My Ch,
Personal Church.

We lived/suffered/died that we who followers Him
might have fellowship we can carry on

... I would like to direct you to the ...

... I would like to direct you to the ...

... I would like to direct you to the ...

Sermon for Shut-in service October 27, 1974

"A Personal Church!"

Text: Matt. 16:18, "And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Scripture Matt. 16:13-20

In our scripture for today we read of Jesus inquiring of His disciples about Himself. He is asking to find out just who people ^{ARE SAYING} say he is. This is a very familiar story and I am sure most of you have heard it many times before. Peter, the outspoken disciple who was always so quick with the answers, once again does not fail his master, but blurts out, "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God." Surprisingly he had the right answer and Jesus tells him so. I say surprisingly ^{for several reasons. First} because when we look at some of the other incidents in the life of Peter we see that he was always putting his foot ^{later:} in his mouth. In the very next chapter ~~xx~~ of Matthew we read of Peter being taken to the top of the mountain along with two of the other disciples and how Peter suggested to Jesus when He was transfigured before them, how they could make three booths there, one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. This was the same Peter who saw his Lord walking on the water and in faith asked that he too might walk upon the water. But when he was out of the boat and realized what he was doing, he became frightened and began to sink because of his loss of faith. This is the same Peter who found fault with the fact that Jesus said He was going up to Jerusalem and was going to be killed. And Jesus answered him by saying, "Get thee behind me Satan."

This is the same Peter who stepped forth in the Garden of Gethsemane and cut off the right ear of the High Priest's servant. This is the same Peter who very quickly stated that he would never turn his back on his Lord, and Jesus prophesied that Peter would deny Him that very night. This is the same Peter who followed at a distance as they took Jesus before the High Priest for questioning. And this is the same Peter who sat warming his hands before the fire in the courtyard of the High Priest, and who vehemently denied that he ever knew this Jesus of Nazareth.

And this is the same Peter who came to the sepulchre seeking his Lord, after he had been told that the body was not there. There is an interesting note to be found in the Mark account of the resurrection that is a bit different from the other accounts. In Mark the angel of the Lord is talking to the women who had come to the tomb and he tells them, "But go your way, tell his disciples, and Peter, that He goeth before you into Gallilee;" I think this is significant because Peter is singled out as one to whom this message should be told. From the remaining history and life of Peter we know that he did indeed become the rock upon which Christ's church was built. This wishy-washy, impetuous, questioning, seemingly unstable fisherman became the rock that Jesus predicted he would be.

If we look at Peter from another angle we would question why Jesus would even consider him as a candidate to be the foundation of Christ's church. Of all the disciples Peter always stands out as the nonconformist. He would be voted, at least by all the standards we know, as the man most unlikely to succeed. He was far from possessing the rocklike qualities that would be needed as the base of the church.

But if we remember all of the other portions of scripture in which Jesus associates with unlikely characters, we cannot help but think that He must have seen in this man Peter, qualities of leadership that just needed a bit of polishing and aging that only time and life can give. He took him as he was. He believed in him when Peter did not even believe in himself. He molded him and shaped him by his constant instruction when necessary, by his scolding and reproof when needed, and by all of the other deft ways and means He employed to slowly, but surely change and alter his character. Which once again goes to prove that Jesus knew how to judge human character much better than anyone ever gave Him credit for doing.

Thus from this common ordinary, unschooled, uncouth man has been founded an institution ^{which} ~~that~~ has withstood the storms of time and history. This has only been possible because this institution founded upon a weak man, has been empowered by the strength of none other than Jesus Christ Himself.

You and I are members of this wonderful body known as Christ's Church. In recent conversation with a dear little old lady, (none of you here). We were talking about this church and she started to refer to it as "My Church," but stopped herself and said, "Our Church." Perhaps she felt that she should not say, "My Church," I do not know, for I did not question her about it. The word church is defined in the catechism as, "A body of believers in Christ." It is also referred to as an assembly of people, or a congregation, or a society. Christ said, "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them." To be gathered together for His name, means to be assembled for His purpose which He has ordained. Christ ordained the church. Therefore, it is the organ through which His truths must be proclaimed. It bears witness to His life, to His teachings, to His ministry, to His death, to His Resurrection and to the salvation which is ours through Him. The Church must ever proclaim Jesus as Lord and Saviour and must always bear witness to Christ, and bring people together to worship God as a corporate body of believers.

It is significant to note that Jesus very seldom used the word "my". The few times He did, it was in reference to "My Father, my friend, my church." When we think about it we realize that His true possessions were, His Father and His church. It isn't wrong to use the term my church as long as we never become possessive about it and consider it as belonging to ~~my~~ us. We can use the word "My" when we truly accept Christ as our Saviour and join in the fellowship of His church. Then we can say MY Church and it really does belong to us, because we are really then a part of it.

You people have had a lot to do with the furthering of this church. Perhaps we should say, "Congregation." Through your efforts we who now are in the position to lead, have a house in which we can worship God. Thus, you can ~~xxx~~ call St. Paul's "My Church." It ~~xxxxxxx~~ is therefore fitting that on this Reformation Sunday, we pay tribute to all who have labored to make this church, the church of Jesus Christ. Were it not for those who so valiantly planned, and labored, we could not worship here this afternoon.

But in paying tribute to anyone be it an individual or a group, there is always the danger of forgetting the real purpose served by a group or an individual. In this instance we should much moreso be paying tribute to Jesus Christ the founder of this church, as well as each individual church. Martin Luther may have been responsible for the Reformation, and our forefathers may have founded St. Paul's here in Butler, and many of you as well as your families may have toiled and labored in this vineyard; but it is to Jesus Christ that we must give the tribute and the complete honor for this church as well as for all other churches.

He lived, He suffered, He died, that we who are followers of Him, might have a fellowship in which we can carry on. But He also left us something that is very meaningful in the life of the believer. He left us the memorial of His body and blood. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in other words. It is in this Sacrament that we each come to Him anew, and once again ask Him for the forgiveness of our sins. It is also fitting on the day in which the church took on ~~new~~ new meaning that we can assemble like this and observe the Sacrament with those of you who are not regularly able to participate in the services each Sunday. So let us now come to His table and partake of His Supper. Perhaps if we talked to Jesus as the Rev. Horatius Bonar a Scottish minister once did in the familiar hymn used quite often as a Communion Hymn, we could really come to feel and know His presence as we sit at His table. Mr. Bonar spoke; "This is the hour of banquet and of song; this is the heavenly table spread for me: here let me feast, and feasting still prolong the brief bright hour of fellowship with thee." Let us pray.

We are to do good, to be rich in good deeds, liberal and generous, thus laying up for ourselves a good foundation for the future so that we may take hold of the life which is life indeed.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 3, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR

MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST

MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR

GREG BOSKO, MARCIA MCBRIDE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD" WOOLER
"ARIEL" DOIGE

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 271 "O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED"

*ACCOLYTE - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "ETERNAL GOD, IN WHOM WE LIVE AND MOVE AND HAVE OUR BEING, WHOSE FACE IS HIDDEN FROM US BY OUR SINS, AND WHOSE MERCY WE FORGET IN THE BLINDNESS OF OUR HEARTS; CLEANSE US, WE BESEECH THEE, FROM ALL OUR OFFENSES, AND DELIVER US FROM PROUD THOUGHTS AND VAIN DESIRES; THAT WITH LOWLINESS AND MEERNESS WE MAY DRAW NEAR TO THEE; CONFESSING OUR FAULTS, CONFIDING IN THY GRACE, AND FINDING IN THEE OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST THY SON, AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS."

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: 11 CORINTHIANS 9: 6-15

HYMN No. 260 "LORD, THOU LOVEST THE SHEEPFUL GIVER"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "CANTANDO"

CONCONE

ANTHEM: "GOIN' HOME" DVORAK - ACCOMPANIMENT -

KITTY FEDER - PIANO; ROL THOMPSON

SERMON: "STEALERS 74!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 395 "FROM THEE ALL SKILL AND SCIENCE FLOW"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "POSTLUDE IN B FLAT" VOLEKMAR

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MRS. CARL MILLER IN MEMORY OF HER "HUSBAND".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALLEN BOTACCHI, JOHN

REDMAN, DAN BOSKO, ROBERT KNAUER, CHARLES PENAR.

ELDER AND MRS. ROLAND THOMPSON WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL

AT THE DOOR TODAY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 184.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. SHARON STAUFFER,

LAUREL STAUFFER, AND DEBBIE MCBRIDE.

> TODAY - 6:00 - YOUTH CHOIR - WE HAD AT LEAST 15 SIGN-UP.

> TODAY - 7:00 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP - THE YOUTH ARE TO COME IN COSTUME.

MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING.

> WEDNESDAY - 7:30 - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING.

TODAY - AFTER THE MORNING WORSHIP - THERE WILL BE A

SHORT MEETING OF THE MARY MARTHA CIRCLE IN FRONT OF

THE CHURCH - IT WILL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE OR TWO.

THE PASTOR WILL BE IN NORFOLK VIRGINIA - MONDAY THRU

FRIDAY OF THIS WEEK. IF YOU SHOULD HAVE ANY PASTORAL

NEEDS, PLEASE CONTACT BEA TAIT, OR THE REV. GRANVILLE

COOPER.

NEXT SUNDAY IS CHRISTIAN ENLISTMENT SUNDAY - THE BUDGET

WILL BE PRESENTED; THE UNDERSHEPHERDS WERE CONTACTED

AND THEY WILL HAVE A SHORT MEETING AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE

NEXT SUNDAY. THOSE NOMINATED FOR A THREE YEAR PERIOD

FOR ELDER ARE: ROBERT BASEHORE, GENE STEPHENSON

FOR DEACON: PAUL PRABE,

DON KENNEDY, JOAN MASTER AND WILLIAM FREUGH!

BILL PFLUGH WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO

HELPED BRING THE SHUT-INS TO THE SERVICE LAST SUNDAY

AFTERNOON. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THE YOUTH,

WOMEN AND MEN WHO SERVED AS USHERS AT DEBSON DURING

OCTOBER - WITHOUT YOU IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE.

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR THANKS TO BILL FOR THE

TWO NECESSARY PROJECTS - THANK YOU.

MR. PEARRE HOSPITAL

WELLS-VIS. VISITORS

Perhaps this seem harsh when consider 1st time, 2
But must ask, "What G, say?"

V: ~~Malachi~~ Malachi 3
Many peop, many denom/chs adopt attitude "let G B
satisfy what is left."
Thus own day/age "stealers 74!"

Is. It blesses many things but attitude begrudges G.
Early Xplains & chs give G 1st, other things 2nd.
slow/sure this change,
our needs/wants/decides 1st, G get leftovers
vs 9, must give G 1st place or face conseq.
Many fight hang on possess homes/prop/furn etc
But if many look G give G 2nd place may change
thinking

G. says, vs 10

Peop reluc step out faith in give 2 G.
chs I serve each had peop say, "I no believe pledge"
That same pers buy house 20/25 yrs/car 3 yrs,
this pledge.

What really say, "I believe pledge 4 me/not 4 G"
diff tweek ch pledge other pledge/no can pay other
pledge as G fit.

Pledge 2 ch, U give what U feel U want give

In all bus of give 2 G it matter trust G give health
strength

Does not all come from G?

It matter trust G as says Mal 3:10, "He open win-
dows hvn pour out bless."

We can never outgive G,

unless U know I mean/U no understand

It may come U health fam,

May U peace in marriage, obed children

May U content in job & peop work with

May take all forms, but G bless some way

(Illust. titling & results) Letourneau

With inflation not poss every1 give 10%

But is poss all give cert. % money,

as well cert. % time & effort in ch. work

Where not 1 us cannot spare G some time cause 2 busy

If so, we just that, "Too Busy."

& need alter our lives.

Simple fact all this, we created love G

This mean G wants all of us.

We no want portion, or what we want give,

"Stealers 74!"

Malachi 3:8-10

"Will man rob God? But you say, 'How are we robbing
thee?' In your tithes and offerings. You are
cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me; the
whole nation of you. Bring the full tithes into
the storehouse, that there may be food in my house;
and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of
hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for
you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

Scripture: II Cor. 9:6-15

Preacher once remark: "I know what peop will put on
my tombstone --- the beggar died."

Perhaps on many preach tombstone,

perhaps this peop think of preachers in gen

At risk this AM further this that in some peop minds
I speak subj ch peop no like hear----MONEY

I no believe speak this often, but this time yr we
consider budget & ch needs

I realize some folk just soon preach no refer 2 it

We not suppose think/worry bout it

MONEY fact life whether grocer/pastor ch

1 most quote story Js/story Gosps Mark, Luk 3,4, vs
story widow mite /2 1/

Tells Js in syn nr treas, watch peop put mon in

Saw many wealth put lrg sums

widow put 2 sm coin = 1¢

Js tell disc this woman put more all rest

She gave what little she had to Lord &

it more accept

Given free give spirit

This story good obj lesson 4 all us

But also respons fallacy sum peop hav ch give

fallacy Js condone give small gift & small gift

more accept 2 God,

thus we can little as possib to G

(Illust. boy & best show for 5¢)

hate burst any illus bout give,

story by Js concern some1 only sm sum give/gave it

Js show pers may give lrg sum/give no love give

" 6-7 Scripture

ift of duty vs. gift love

(Illust. 89 yr old man, Miss) ~~ALL~~

This gift love, this G wants from us

(Illust. Kennedy brand 1 rosen)

He wants MONEY.

3

He wants Time,

He wants abilities

& in return 4 give this His care, He prom bless
far beyond measure

Must ask selves quest "Will we B part of crowd of
"St lers 74?"

Q. will we ~~Exorark~~ join ranks givers? in grat 4
what He give us?

I would suggest we gather 2gether as hus/wife/fams
& pray earnestly/seriously B4 make decision what
give.

G will lead if we seek Him sincerely.

Let us not B "Stealers 74," or "stealers" any other
yr.

Let us instead B lovers of G & show it by actions
& deeds for Him.

Remember F. say,

"He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and

he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not
reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a
cheerful giver."

"Stealers 74!"

Text: Malachi 3:8-10,

"1 man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How are we robbing thee?' In your tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me; the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

Scripture: II Corinthians 9:6-15

A preacher once remarked to a friend of his, "I know what people will put on my tombstone ---- The beggar died." Perhaps this may be on many preachers tombstones, and perhaps this is the image some people have about preachers in general. Therefore this morning, at the risk of furthering this thought in some people's minds, I would like to speak to you about a subject that church people do not like to hear too much about. And that is money. I do not believe ~~much~~ in preaching about it very often, but at this time of the year when we are considering the budget and the needs of the church, I do not think it is out of line to do so. I realize of course that some folks would just as soon never have the preacher refer to it, because he is not supposed to worry or think about those things. But money is a fact of life whether you are in charge of a grocery store, or whether you are pastor of a church.

One of the most quoted stories of Jesus is probably the little story that is told in the Gospels of Mark and Luke and it ~~was~~ is made up of only 3 or 4 verses. The story is the one about the widows mite. ~~The~~ As it is related in both Gospels it tells of Jesus sitting near the treasury in the Synagogue and watching people put their money in. We are told that he saw many of the wealthy putting in large sums, but along comes this poor widow who places in the treasury two small coins, which were the equivalent of a penny. Jesus called His disciples to Him and remarked that this ^{poor} woman had placed into the treasury more than all the rest. She had given what little she had to the Lord, and therefore it was more acceptable. It was also the free giving spirit in which she gave that made it worth more.

This story tells a very good object lesson for all of us, but I believe it also has been responsible for a fallacy that some people have about church giving. The fallacy is that because Jesus condoned the giving of a small gift and said this gift was more acceptable to God, then this is a just cause for giving as little as we can, because this is what our Lord said to do. (Illustration of boy & best show for a nickel)
Well I hate to burst any illusions that some of you may have had about this, but this is not necessarily so. The illustration concerns someone who could only give a small amount and this is what she gave.

The real point of the story is not what she gave, but how she gave. What Jesus was pointing out, was that a person may give large amounts of money and give it without love, and so it is given in vain. This is what Paul was telling the Corinthians as we read in our scripture, "Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion." This then is the secret, to give with love and with joy. Have you ever received a gift that was given out of a sense of duty, rather than out of love? If you have you know how cold and lifeless such a gift is. ~~xxx~~ By the same token if you have ever received a gift that was given strictly out of love, you know what a joy it is. This past week I received a gift from an 89 year old man that made me cry. I visited him in the hospital and read some scripture with him and prayed with him, all the while he held my hand real tight like a little child. And when I went to leave he pulled me down close to his face and kissed me on the cheek. That, was a gift given out of pure love. This is what God wants from us.

(Illustration of Kennedy and grand larceny)

When one considers this for the first time, it may seem that this is being a little harsh. But when we ask what God has to say about this, then we begin to see things in a different light. In the prophecy of Malachi the 3rd chapter the 8th verse we read the question, "Will man rob God?" Naturally, we may ask, "How can we possibly rob God?" And if we read on in the 9th verse God answers, "Yet you are robbing me." And Malachi inserts the

question the Israelites must have asked, "But you say, "How are we robbing thee?" And the answer comes back from God, "In your tithes and offerings." So we see from this that the people of Israel were holding back on giving to the Lord what was rightfully His. But when we look at our own age and our own day we see that we have "Stealers 74." Many people in many different churches and denominations have adopted this attitude that God will have to be satisfied with whatever is left over after everything else is paid.

Times change attitudes and customs do they not? The Israelites were not blessed with many things, neither were they faced with many of the expenses that we have today. But their attitude was one of begrudging the Lord what was rightfully His. The attitude among many Christians since the beginning of the Christian church has been to strive to give to God before taking care of the other things of life. But slowly and surely this attitude has changed to one of taking care of our wants, and needs and desires, and if anything is left over, God can have it.

But in this thinking we can see the danger, just as the danger was spelled out by God for the Israelites. He says in the 10th verse, "You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me the whole nation of you." In this we can see that God will either be given 1st place in our lives, or He will exact a form of punishment from us. Many people fight to hang onto possessions, such as homes and property of all kinds, and many times all sorts of things go wrong. But if the people would look at their lives and realize that they are continually giving God second place, their lives may take a change for the better if they reversed their thinking. God also promises this in the very next verse of Malachi when He says, "Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." God is saying try me and see what will happen.

But you see people are reluctant to step out in faith when it comes to

giving to the Lord. The churches that I have served have all had a certain number of people who will say, "I do not believe in pledging." Which is ~~true and I accept it, and feel the same way~~ erroneous, for that same person will go out and buy a home and sign a mortgage for 20 or 25 years, which is a pledge for a long period of time. Or that person will go out and buy a car when a person says he does not believe in pledging, but buys cars, houses, new car and finance it for 3 years which is also a form of a pledge. But you furniture, etc on time, he is really saying, I ~~do not~~ believe in pledging anything ~~see these pledges are not like the pledges you give to a church~~. With a church but I do not believe in pledging to God. But you see these pledges are not like pledge you can determine what you want to pledge. With a house or a car, the church pledges ~~the church will tell you that you must pay 70, 80, 100, or whatever~~ lending institution will tell you that you must pay 70, 80, 100, or whatever dollars a month for a 3 yr period or 20 years. And you cannot come to them and say, "Look, I'm a little short this month and I can only give you a third of it, or half of it. It is all or you lose the car or house or whatever. With a pledge to the church, no one is going to hound you if you are laid off or you have problems meeting it.

In all of this business of giving to God, it becomes a matter of doing it in faith. In faith that God is going to give you the health and the strength to be able to work and earn a living. And after all, where does our health and strength come ~~for~~ from? It is a matter of trusting God that when he says He will open the windows of heaven and pour us out a blessing, then we must believe that He will. We can never outgive God, and unless you have taken this step of faith, you cannot understand what I am saying. It may not come to you in material things, but it may come to you with a healthy family. It may take the form of having a peaceful marriage and obedient children. It may take the form of contentment with your job and the people you work with. And just the reverse of these things can be true if you are miserly and selfish with what God blesses you with.

A very good example of what I have been trying to say, was proven in the life of Mr. LeTourneau the earth moving machinery man.

(Illustration of his tithing and the results)

Mr. Letourneau also gave liberally of himself in the work of the Lord, and a portion of our tithe can be given in this way. With the cost of inflation

raising families and so on it isn't possible for everyone to give a straight 10% of the salary. But it is possible for everyone to give of their time. There is not a one of us who is so busy that we cannot spare God a few hours a week of our time. And if any of us think that we are too busy to fit God in our schedule, then we are just that too busy, and we need to alter our lives.

The simple fact of all of this is that we were created to love God. This means that God wants all of us. He doesn't just want a portion or what we feel we ~~can~~ want to give Him. He wants our money, He wants our time, He wants our abilities. And in return for giving all of this over to His care and keeping, He ~~will~~ ^{can} bless us far beyond measure.

So we must then ask ~~in~~ ourselves the question, "Will we be a part of the join the ranks of the givers Stealers of 74?" Or will we instead, ~~be a part of the givers?~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ in gratitude for what He has given us? I would respectfully suggest that we each one gather together as husbands and wives, or as families, and pray earnestly and seriously about this before we make a rash decision. God will lead us to give ~~as much as we can~~ as He wants us to if we sincerely seek His guidance and help. Let us not be "Stealers 74, or Stealers any other year. Let us instead be lovers of God and show it by our actions and our deeds for Him.

This, is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA

CHRISTIAN ENLISTMENT SUNDAY November 10, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
GREG BOSKO, MARCIA MOBRIDE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "THE LORD IS MY LIGHT" PSALM 27
"PRELUDE ON 'MELITA'" DYKES

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 30 "COME, WE WHO LOVE THE LORD"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "GRACIOUS GOD, FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, YOU HAVE PROMISED TO RECEIVE US WHEN WE COME TO YOU. WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD AND DEED. WE HAVE DISOBEYED YOUR LAW. WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU OR OUR NEIGHBORS AS WE SHOULD. FORGIVE US, O GOD, AND GRANT THAT WE MAY LIVE AND SERVE YOU IN NEWNESS OF LIFE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR EYES."

*PEOPLE: "AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE"

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATTHEW 25: 14-30

HYMN No. 256 "LORD, SPEAK TO ME"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: "THE LORD BE WITH YOU."

*PEOPLE: "AND WITH THY SPIRIT."

*PASTOR: "LET US PRAY."

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "THE PEACE OF GOD"

MARTIN

DEDICATION OF UNDER SHEPHERDS

BUDGET PRESENTATION

NOMINATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

ANTHEM: "THIS IS MY COUNTRY" JACOBS - CHOR
SOLO - VON MALONEY

SERMON: "WANTED: USED TO LENTS!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 259 "BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN GIVEN

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN MUCH"

*ORGAN POSTLUDE: "MARCHE HEROIQUE" STICKLES

*CONGREGATION STANDING

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY MR. & MRS. ROY PFLUGH IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES".

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *WALLY FEDER, JOHN SNOW, MONT MACKINNEY, JAMES MALONEY, STEVE VARGO.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. RAYMOND COVERT WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL

AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. BARB VARGO AND KAREN KENNEDY.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 205.

HOSPITALIZED: MR. W. W. PRABE

THOSE NOMINATED FOR A THREE YEAR PERIOD FOR ELDER ARE:

ROBERT BASEMORE, AND GENE STEPHENSON. FOR DEACONS:

PAUL PRABE, DON KENNEDY, JOAN MASTER AND WILLIAM PFLUGH.

TODAY - SHORT MEETING WITH ALL THE UNDER SHEPHERDS IN THE FRONT OF THE SANCTUARY RIGHT AFTER WORSHIP.

THE UNDER SHEPHERDS WILL VISIT YOU IN YOUR HOMES TODAY OR SOMETIME THIS WEEK. PLEASE MAKE THEM WELCOME.

WED. - NOV. 13 - 10:30 A.M. - MARY MARTHA CIRCLE.

NEXT SATURDAY - NOV. 16 - 6:00 P.M. - THE YOUTH

FELLOWSHIP WILL HAVE A SWIMMING PARTY AT THE YMCA.

EVERYONE IS TO MEET AT THE Y. THEY WILL GO TO THE HOME

OF MR. & MRS. RAY COVERT, 127 WHITE OAK DRIVE,

MEADOWOOD. PARENTS CAN PICK UP THE YOUTH AT 9 P.M.

THURS. - NOV. 21 - BUTLER AREA LAYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

WILL HOLD THEIR FALL MEETING AND DINNER AT ST. PAUL'S

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AT CONNOQUENESSING AT 6:30.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ROBERT TAIT, J. W. HARMON,

AND PAUL PRABE.

TO WALK IN THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL MEANS TO LET CHRIST POSSESS US WHOLLY. AND THOSE WHO WALK IN THIS BLAMELESS WAY ARE BLESSED.

Welcome visitors; sign cards/book

WALLY FEDER - 17 THURS. 9:30

ANNIE DON ELLIS KENNEDY - 18 THURS.

KATH FEIGER - 17 THURS. 9:30

Wouldn't choir sound horrib if all sopranos:
or all bass?
Need blend bass, sop, ten, alto make beautiful
Need ushers, acolytes, preachers/teachers/asst teach
sorters all kinds run ch.

(Illustration fingerprints)

) H ever figure U unique?

ask Saul: face bout fingerprints

This way we are/all unique/each spec G eyes

Alway remem very few A. Lincoln/Shakespeare/Mason

Most us will B unknown/unheralded in world,

therefore, play import role G's plan

Up 2 each us determ where/how fit in G's plan

(Illust. L. Rees, and Sangster)

Most us 1 tal peop

But this no mean we ~~xxxx~~ less import any1 else.

In orchest toke all instruments make symph produce
beautiful music.

But 1 instr out tune create havoc/disrupt all

So with us, must blend tals 2gether create harmon
beauty can have Christ's church

(Illust. wealthy girl, connect 2 Xp.)

God callin; those B follow His Son from His hvnly

classified ads,

"Wanted: Used Talents!"

Will U apply 2day?

"Join ranks those employ G in His work?"

"Add your tals, however small, feeble they

B 2 work 4 ch of Js Xp?

about/ask G lead direct what should do.

"Wanted: Used Talents!"

Text: Matthew 25:29 "For to everyone who has will
more be given, and he will have
abundance."

(Rep' want-ads from newspaper.)

th good examn what wanted fields employ/that exper

Exper indic pers has talents used/develop/cultiv

makes pers desirable industry

per w/exper more valu employ/better salary

arable Js told scrip every Xpian take seriously

cleans not coins but weight.

Talent silver 576, 5 tal 2880/2tal 1152/1 tal 576

who 1 tal useless serv?

On Barclay, Pharisee/scribes

Ac/pharisee keep letter law

any change from this, heresy

Have many ac/pharisee 2day

These peop tal from G not use/refuse use

their action simil dig hole, bury tal ground

this para tell G give diff gifts diff peop

even how much tal man has, but what does with it

G never expect us do thing we incapa do

nor does require perform act - unequipp perform

but G does expect use abilis fullest

" " " require use talents give us

Talents for His honor, glory

(Illust. Adam Clark)

Perhaps this made him great think G gave incen

use tals best could, succeeded

this para pt 1 furth thing,

that is, work well done/more work 2 do.

Js no say you work 3yrs, 1yr

He say, "Take cross, follow me."

Have U ever know peop feel only need nerve G short

1 won tell me, "worked 3yr, now some1 else turn."

If we look serv this lite, I say when stand B4 Him

"Depart from me you cursed, into the eternal fire

prepared for the Devil and his angels."

This record later on same chap as s rip

Xpian serv G with no easy task, I no imply this

do not mean serv same dreary job yr after yr

do mean serv, certain area, move another

we each given diff gifts from G

we no possess same things, this fortunate

"Wanted: Used Talents!"

Text: Matthew 25:29, "For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance."

(Read wanteds out of newspaper.)

I think this is a good example of what is wanted in the different fields of employment and that is experience. And experience indicates that the person has talents that have been used and cultivated and have made that person desirable ~~by~~ in industry. It also goes without saying that a person who is experienced is more valuable to his employer, and thus commands a better salary.

The story of the master entrusting his property to his servants is a story that everyone who calls himself a Christian, must take very seriously. ~~It is a story that everyone who calls himself a Christian, must take very seriously.~~ To begin with, the talents involved in the story were not really coins or money, but were a weight instead. A talent of silver was worth approximately \$576 dollars. The man who received five talents then, received \$2880 dollars, the man who received two talents received \$1152 dollars, and the one talent man received \$576 dollars.

An interesting thing about this story is the question, "Who was the one talented or useless servant portrayed in the story?" William Barclay says that it was the Scribes and the pharisees to whom Jesus was referring. ~~It is a story that everyone who calls himself a Christian, must take very seriously.~~

The Scribes and Pharisees were people who strove to keep the letter of the law exactly as it was. Any change from this, or failure to follow it in this manner was heresy to them. We have many Scribes and Pharisees ~~among~~ among us today. These are the people who are given talents by God and do not use them, or refuse to use them. Their action is the equivalent of digging a hole and burying the talent in the ground.

This parable also tells us that God gives different gifts to different people. It is never, how much talent a man has, but what he does with it. God never expects us to do things we are incapable of doing, nor does He require us to perform any act which we are unequipped to perform. But He does expect us to use our abilities to the fullest. He does require that

we use our abilities to the fullest. He does require that our talents be used for His honor and glory.

(Illustration of Adam Clark, English Mission)

Perhaps this is what made this man the great thinker he was, or what gave him the incentive to use his abilities in the proper way. He used his talents as best he could and he succeeded.

But this parable also points out one further thing, and that is, the reward of work well done is more work to do. Jesus never said that you are to serve me for only a three year period, or for one year in my Church School. But He said "take up your cross and follow me." Have you ever known people who felt they only needed to serve God for a limited time? I had one woman in a church I served become very indignant when I suggested she continue to serve in a certain capacity. She very firmly and forcefully informed me that she had done all she was going to. She had worked in the Church School for a three year period and now it was someone else's turn to work. If we looked at our service to the Lord in this light, I dread to hear what our Lord is going to say to us when we come to the day we stand before Him and He pronounces His condemnation on us. He will say, "Depart from me you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels." And you will find this recorded a little later in the same chapter we have used for our scripture and text. I do not mean to imply that our Christian service and witness will be easy. It will be difficult at times, and yes, even discouraging because we will be beset with the trials and problems of life, as well as becoming confronted from the wiles of the devil. But through the strength and the power that comes from God through prayer and seeking His guidance we can overcome all of this.

But you see our service for the Lord is for a lifetime. This does not mean that we must serve in the same capacity year after dreary year. But it does mean that after we have served a term on the Church Council, that we move out and work in another area. We each are given different gifts from God. We do not all possess the same abilities, and this is indeed fortunate.

Wouldn't the choir sound horrible if they were all sopranos? Or all basses? It takes a blending of Sopranos, basses, tenors and altos to make it sound beautiful. It takes ushers, and acolytes, preachers, teachers, assistant teachers, and workers of all kinds to run a church.

But did you ever consider that each one of you are unique? Have you ever thought that in God's great plan you are something special? Ask Paul Pfabe sometime to explain fingerprints to you and you will find that no two finger prints have ever been discovered that were identically the same. Each finger print is unique and different. ~~xxxxx~~ Doesn't this say something to You? Does it not make you feel that God was really concerned when He created you? Does it not show that you are something and someone special in His eyes?

You are important in God's eyes and in His kingdom. He has something for you to do. You were so important that He gave His Son for you. What you do or do not do is important and makes a great difference in the Lord's work, and to the witness of Christ. We must always remember that very few people are Abraham Lincoln's, or Shakespeare's, or Thomas Edisons. Most of us are and always will be unknown and unheralded in the world. But it takes all of us common people to make up this world and therefore we must play an important part in the vast plan of God. Therefore, it is up to each of us to determine just where and how we can fit into God's ~~xxxxxx~~ plan.

(Illustration of Paul Rees and talents, as well as the line from Sangster sermon on talents)

Most of us are only one talent people. But this ~~xxxxx~~ does not mean that we are any less important than anyone else. In an orchestra it takes all of the different instruments to make a symphony ~~xxxxx~~ produce beautiful music. But just let one of those instruments be played ~~xxxx~~ out of tune, and it disrupts the entire concert. So it is with us, we must all blend our talents together to create the harmonious beauty that we can have in Christ's church.

~~(fill in with names of all the different talents and instruments that make up the church)~~

~~John Donne wrote in his beautiful hymn, "The voice of God is calling etc."~~

(Illustration of wealthy girl and consecration to Christ)

God is ~~still~~ calling to those who would be followers of His Son, ~~the~~
~~from the~~
~~heavenly classified ads are calling out to every~~ from His
heavenly classified ads, "Wanted: Used Talents!" Will you apply today. Will
you join the ranks of those who are employed by God in His work? Will you
add your talents however small or feeble they may be, to work for the Church
of Jesus Christ? Pray about it, and ask God to lead you in ~~this direction~~
what you should do.

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" Come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 17, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
BILL WATTERSON AND RANDY DELLEN - ACOLYTES

ORDER FOR WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "THEME FROM 'FINLANDIA'" SIBELIUS
"WHEN GOD LEADS" CLARKE

SILENT PRAYER
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 31 "FATHER, AGAIN IN JESUS' NAME"
*ASCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN
*EXHORTATION
*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O LORD OUR GOD, GREAT, ETERNAL, WONDERFUL IN GLORY, WHO KEEPEST COVENANT AND PROMISE FOR THOSE THAT LOVE THEE WITH THEIR WHOLE HEART, WHO ART THE LIFE OF ALL, THE HELP OF THOSE THAT FLEE UNTO THEE, THE HOPE OF THOSE WHO CRY UNTO THEE, CLEANSE US FROM OUR SINS, AND FROM EVERY THOUGHT DISPLEASING TO THY GOODNESS. CLEANSE OUR SOULS AND BODIES, OUR HEARTS AND CONSCIENCES, THAT WITH A PURE HEART AND A CLEAR MIND, WITH PERFECT LOVE AND CALM HOPE, WE MAY VENTURE CONFIDENTLY AND FEARLESSLY TO PRAY UNTO THEE. AMEN."
*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
*PRAISE
*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.
*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE
*DOXOLOGY No. 55:
SCRIPTURE LESSON: PSALM 139
HYMN No. 315 "LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT"
*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)
*GLORIA PATRI
*CALL TO PRAYER
*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.
*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE
OFFERING
OFFERTORY: "ANDANTE GRAZIOSO" MOZART

ANTHEM: "IS THERE ANYBODY HERE?" WILSON
SERMON: "A KNOW, KNOW!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 311 "NOW ONCE AGAIN FOR HELP"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
ORGAN POSTLUDE: "ANTIPHON" MUFFAT

*CONGREGATION STANDING
THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MRS. GRACE RIDDLE FOR MR. & MRS. STEVE VARGO IN HONOR OF THEIR 7TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY (NOV. 18).

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *PAUL RIEMER, DARYL TAIT, JOHN DREHER, GARY PENAR, DON KINGSLEY.

DEACON AND MRS. PAUL RIEMER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 227.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: MRS. MARGARET COVERT AND PAULA STEPHENSON.

HOSPITALIZED: MR. W. W. PFABE - BOWEN. VERONICA McQuandless

TODAY - TIME AND TALENT SHEETS ARE DUE - PLEASE RETURN THEM TO BEA IN THE OFFICE - IF YOU ARE NOT FINISHED

CALLING - PLEASE DO SO THIS WEEK. THIS INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT FOR THE YEAR BOOK.

MONDAY - 6:00 - FIDELITY BIBLE CLASS TUREEN SUPPER - THERE WILL ALSO BE A GRAB BAG.

WEDNESDAY - 8:00 - GOLDEN CIRCLE MEETING - THEY WILL BE MAKING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS - MEMBERS WILL NEED SCISSORS.

THURS. - 6:30 - BUTLER AREA LAYMEN'S ASSOCIATION FALL DINNER AND MEETING AT ST. PAUL'S UCC AT CONNOQUENESSING. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ROBERT TAIT, J. W. HARMON AND PAUL PFABE.

AN ORDER WENT IN LAST WEEK FOR THE DELUXE CLOTH BOUND LIVING BIBLE WHICH WITH A SPECIAL COUPON FROM THE CHURCH (COST WILL BE \$7.47). ANOTHER ORDER WILL BE GOING THIS WEEK - IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A COPY - PLEASE LEAVE BEA TAIT KNOW. THE CHILDREN'S LIVING BIBLE IS \$4.91 ALSO AVAILABLE WITH A COUPON. A COPY OF THE ADULT LIVING BIBLE IS IN THE OFFICE SHOULD YOU WANT TO SEE IT.

NEXT SUNDAY - 7:00 - YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE
DON'T FORGET - GREENVILLE HOME NEEDS - PANTYHOSE, NYLONS, BITS OF YARN, TRIMMING, EMPTY SPOOLS.

Even if we anything G knew us
 How wonder yet could we expect less from G?
 In infin love/mercy He planned & us
 He wanted us come bth B part His creation
 Yet how often we live like this?
 not insted grumb/moan/quest,
 "Why was I born? What purpose of life & me? How
 can I go on?" begin
 Our quest should cease & we ~~XXXXXX~~ instead praise
 & all works & echo words Dav 17-18
 But Dav remems he still smont peop no know G
 He concern what hap these peop
 He want comf & assur liv Gly life not in vain
 & so he speak thots aloud, state what G will do
 Vss 19-22
 Must remem this O! & no Xp speak harts peop O!
 When Xp came gave new Commands, we 2 love enemies
 He told folls do good those deppite use U
 seek luv all men good/evil
 But he no tell love sin
 Told luv sinner, but not sin
 In essenced this Dav say these vss
 He say radic disturb those against will of G
 "cannot stand th s type living & he count as
 enemies of G. & they were
 Dav show right. indig, which prop & just
 He showed this in Temp.
 but danger right indie we judge/jury in lives peop
 Must no do, but comment care ALG, & he judge
 v 23,24
 Dav close is with prayer
 he pray & serch hart/mind/soul
 he ask & look inward deep see if wick then lead
 etern life
 not only pray conf & self-ex, but no! pray
 unless complete will open life eye of ALG
 Dav seek all this is have G know him & know G as
 this "A Know, Know," is well
 1. I Cor. 13:12 say another way,
 "Now I know in part, but then shall I ~~xx~~ know, even
 as I am known."
 2 know = B known essence of Xpianity & Xpian
 Illustration man/operation/testimony)
 one man who knew in whom place comp. trust
 conf.

"A Know, Know!"

Text: Psalm 139:23,24,
 Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and
 know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way
 in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."
 Amy and Jennifer Barkley/Amy woke her up.
 "I know." "I don't know."
 Knowing/Unknowing common all peop, not only child
 Things no should do call no no's.
 139 is, is of Know, know, spell K
 Bib schols argue author/I say David
 Not love is love words/phrases
 is deep thot & deep conviction
 Not writ as mod writers make best sell.
 Vss 1-6,
 Dav draw conclus G omniscient/all knowing
 He know all/see all
 in 2day world conflict with this,
 man say he search 4 God
 but little/nothing said G search 4 man
 1 most often heard complaint peop not understood.
 2nd peop "You no understand
 we live/act/speak all sincerity, yet misunder
 (Walter Eccles poem "Not Understood")
 plea Eccles make last line echoed by Dav,
 but assur 3 see-all/know-all about us, even if
 misunderstood by men.
 W 7-12
 Dav quest ever able B out site of G
 No matter where go G there
 even depths of hell He there/utmost part sea
 this comfort as well as disturbing
 (Illustration Big-Godder)
 This Dav, He Big-Godder
 3 everywhere/know everything about everyone.
 No can escape Him
 this God we must have if we really love/worsh/
 in faith and truth.
 Vss 13-18
 Dave acknow 3 aware him when just micro-organism
 being joined another micro-organism within body
 mother.
 This theory make 1 pause truly comprehend lov of
 God.

In fact place very life
 This what all should B able do
 We should echo words Dav B able say as he did,
 s 23,24,
 "Search me O God, and know my heart; try me and
 know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way
 in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."
 Know me, & whether Xp lives within me.
 Test me, & see how strong my faith is.
 Cleanse me from all evil & wicked & lead me ever
 toward etern life with You.
 To know Js Xp is 2 B able speak comp faith/assur
 To know Saviour is 2 know Father
 To know He lived/died/ 4 us, 2 know that which
 leads way everlasting
 May we each B "A Know, Know," in this life,
 & may we also B "A Know, Know," in G's etern
 kingdom, thru our knowing Js Xp as our Saviour.

"A Know, Know!"

Psalm 139:23,24, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts;
and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Where we lived in the central part of the ~~xxxx~~ state, we became friends with a young widow who had two children. The ~~xxxxxx~~ young lady worked as a waitress for a time, and she asked Shirley if she would baby it the children. ~~and the girl held~~

The youngest was a baby and the older girl was _____ old. Amy, the older girl would go into the living room where Jenifer was sleeping on the couch and after a short time she would have Jenifer awake, because she pushed and pulled at her. Naturally, Amy would be crying and it was difficult to get her to go back to sleep. We would say to Amy, "Don't you know that ~~xxx~~ you should let Jenifer sleep Amy?" And she would answer, "I Know!" And then we would ask, "Well, why don't you let her sleep?" And she would answer, "I don't know!" Now we may think ~~this~~ ^{that knowing, and not knowing} is a common thing among children only, this is incorrect. Knowing, and not knowing is indicative of all ages of people in all walks of life from small children to elderly people. We speak of ~~things~~ some things we should do and others we should not do. Those we ~~should~~ should not do, we classify as "No, No's." Well, even in the Bible, there are many "No, No's", but there is also the realm of "knowing and Not Knowing." The 139th Psalm is a good example of this and a Psalm that I would entitle "A Know, Know," spelling the word ~~know~~ know.

Biblical scholars dispute the authorship of this particular Psalm, and some say the author is unknown, and other claim David as its author. I personally believe that David wrote it, regardless of what others are using as their criteria for another author. If you read this Psalm through several times, you will see in it, the hand of someone who has known and lived through all that he is writing about. The author has internalized all of this, and has agonized all of this in his own life. This is not just a lovely Psalm of lovely words and lovely phrases, but it is instead a Psalm of deep thought and deep conviction. It is a Psalm that could not have been written much like some of our modern writers sit down to pen some lines that will make a

best seller.

But let us look at it, and analyse it to see what is being said. In the first 6 verses, (read them) we see that David has drawn the conclusion that God is indeed omniscient, or in other words that he knows everything that is going on. That God understands. In today's word there is a very definite contrast between this Psalm and our thinking. Much is made today of man and his search for God. We keep saying that man is looking for God and seeking Him everywhere. But little or nothing is said of the search of God for us, and for His knowledge of who and what we are.

One of the most often heard complaints of people today, is that they are misunderstood. Our young people tell us, "You just don't understand." We live, we act, we speak in all sincerity, only to learn that our motives and our desires have been misinterpreted and we are misquoted. Walter Eccles wrote a poem about this very thing, which he entitled, "Not Understood."

(Illustration of Eccles poem, page 713, col. B Interpreter's Bible, vol. 4)
The plea which Mr. Eccles makes in the last lines of this poem are echoed by David, but with the assurance that God does see all, and know all about us, even if we are misunderstood by men.
(read 7-12)

In the next few verses we see the questioning of David as he inquires whether he is ever able to be out of sight of God. No matter where he goes God is there, that even in the depths of hell, or the uttermost parts of the sea, God is present. ~~This~~ This can be a comforting thought as well as a disturbing one.

(Illustration of Big-Godder, Barnhouse pg 132)

This is the kind of man David was, he was a Big-Godder. God was everywhere, He knew everything about everyone, He could not be escaped from. This is the kind of God we must have, if we are to really, love and worship Him in faith and truth.

read verse 13-18,

Here David acknowledges that God was aware of him when he was just a small micro-organism that was being joined to another micro-organism within

the body of his mother. This is a theory that makes one pause to truly comprehend the love of God. Even before we were anything, God knew of us. How wonderful this is, and yet could we expect anything less from God? In His infinite love and wisdom He planned for us, He wanted us to come forth and to be a part of His creation. Yet, how often do we live like this? Do we not instead grumble and moan and sometimes even question, "Why was I ever born? Why am I here? What purpose is life for me, and how can I go on?" Our ~~praise~~ questioning should cease, and we should instead begin to praise God for all of His works, and we should echo the words of David, (vss 17,18) "How precious also are thy thoughts unto me O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand; when I awake, I am still with thee."

But then David remembers that he is still among those who do not acknowledge God and he is concerned as to what will happen to these people. He wants the comfort and the assurance that the living of the ~~good~~ Godly life is not in vain, and so he speaks these thoughts out loud by stating what he believes God will do.

(verses 19-22)

Now we must remember that this is the Old Testament and Christ had not spoken to the hearts of the Old Testament people. When Christ came He gave the new commandments and a part of these was to love your enemies. He told his followers to do good to those who spitefully use you, and to seek to love all men, whether good or evil. But one thing He did not tell us to do, and that was to love Sin. He said to love the sinner, but not to love the Sin. In essence this is a part of what David is saying in these verses. He is saying that he is radically disturbed by those who are going against the will of God, and he cannot stand this type of living and he is

counting these people as enemies of God. Which is what they were. David is showing forth righteous indignation which is proper and just. Jesus showed forth this type of thinking when he cast out those who were buying and selling in the Temple. But the danger in righteous indignation is that

we can become judge and jury in the lives of other people. We must not do this, but must instead, commend them to the care of Almighty God, and let God be the judge of all men, including us.

(read verses 23-24)

David closes ~~his~~ this Psalm with a prayer. He is praying that God will search his heart and his soul, and his mind. He is asking God to look inward deeply and to see if there is anything there that is wicked, and then to lead him to everlasting life. It is not only a prayer, but it is a prayer of self-confession and self-examination. No one would pray a prayer such as this if he were not completely willing to have his life completely open to the all-searching eye of Almighty God.

David seeks in all of this Psalm to ~~know~~ ^{have God know him} God, to be known of God, and to know God as well. This then could be called "A Know, Know," Psalm. Paul, in I Corinthians 13:12 states this same thing in yet another way, He says, "Now I know in part, but then shall I know even as I am known." To know and to be known is the essence of being a Christian.

(Illustration of man/operation, and testimony, (singing hymn before operation and death).

Here was a man who knew in whom he could place his complete trust and confidence, in fact place his very life. This is what we should all be able to do. We should echo the words of ~~that Psalmist~~ David and be able to say as he did, "Search me O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts. And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Know me, and whether Christ lives within me. Test me and see how strong my faith is. Cleanse me from all evil and wickedness and lead me ever toward eternal life with you.

To know Jesus Christ is to be able to speak thus with complete faith and assurance. To know the Saviour is to know the Father. To know that He lived and died for ^{us} ~~us~~ is to know that which leads us in the way everlasting. ^{also} May we each be "A Know, Know" in this life and may we be "A Know, Know" in God's eternal kingdom through our knowing Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 1, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. WALLACE FEDER, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHORUS DIRECTOR
GORDON KENNERY, JEFF CAMPBELL - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "WINDS THROUGH OLIVE TREES" REES
"NAZARETH" GOUNOD

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 93 "ARISE, THE KINGDOM IS AT HAND"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "ETERNAL GOD, IN WHOM WE LIVE AND MOVE AND HAVE OUR BEING, WHOSE FACE IS HIDDEN FROM US BY OUR SINS, AND WHOSE MERCY WE FORGET IN THE BLINDNESS OF OUR HEARTS; CLEANSE US, WE BESEECH THEE, FROM ALL OUR OFFENSES, AND DELIVER US FROM PROUD THOUGHTS AND VAIN DESIRES; THAT WITH LOWLINESS AND MECKNESS WE MAY DRAW NEAR TO THEE: CONFESSING OUR FAULTS, CONFIDING IN THY GRACE, AND FINDING IN THEE OUR REFUGE AND OUR STRENGTH, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST THY SON, AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: LUKE 1: 26-38

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

HYMN No. 104 "ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "THE VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS" SCOTT
SOLO BY VON MALONEY

HANGING OF GREENS - DARRYL MASTER, DAVID VENBEL,
BRADLEY AMOS, GREG BOSKO AND RANDY DELLEN.

ANTHEM: "ALONG THE OLDEN CHRISTMAS ROAD" WILSON

SERMON: "SONGS IN THE NIGHT: SONG OF EMMANUEL!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 88 "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "FOREVER THINE" FRICK

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MR. & MRS. FRANCIS H. MAXWELL IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES"

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALLEN BOTACCHI, JOHN

REDMAN, DAN BOSKO, ROBERT KNAUER AND CHARLES PENAR.

ELDER AND MRS. PAUL CAMPBELL WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL

AT THE DOOR TODAY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 237.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: MRS. SHARON

STAUFFER AND LAUREL STAUFFER.

MONDAY - 7:30 - WOMEN'S MARY PRUGH CIRCLE MEETING

WED. - 7:30 - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

THURS. - NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED - PLEASE HAVE

ALL MATERIAL IN BY WEDNESDAY.

THE NEW ADVENT WREATH WHICH IS BEING USED FOR THE FIRST

WAS A GIFT FROM MR. & MRS. JOHN CHUHRA - MR. CHUHRA

WAS A FORMER MEMBER - NOW RESIDING IN KANSAS CITY.

POINSETTA CHART AND FLOWER CHART WILL BE SENT AROUND

TODAY - PRICES ARE STILL NOT AVAILABLE FOR POINSETTA'S,

FLOWERS ARE \$8.00 AS OF NOW.

THE PRICE EFFECTIVE ON THE BIBLES WITH THE COUPON

IS GOOD UNTIL DEC. 25, HOWEVER, YOU CANNOT EXPECT

TO GET THEM BEFORE CHRISTMAS IF THEY ARE NOT ORDERED

SHORTLY.

BASKETBALL SIGN-UP SHEET IS IN THE NARTHEX ON THE

BULLETIN BOARD, OR YOU CAN SIGN UP IN THE OFFICE NOW.

THE LOVE, KINDNESS AND THOUGHTFULNESS SHOWN TO US BY

THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH HAS BEEN VERY MUCH

APPRECIATED. THANK YOU - MR. & MRS. W. W. PFABE.

TONIGHT - 7:00-8:00 - YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE

MRS. RALPH DREHER WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO

VISITED HER, SENT CARDS AND PRAYERS. SHE WOULD ALSO

LIKE TO THANK REV. LINK AND BROTHER COOPER.

TUES. BIBLE STUDY HAS BEEN CHANGED TO THURS. EVENINGS

AT THE CHURCH FOR THOSE WHO WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND TUES.

AND MAYBE FIND IT MORE CONVENIENT.

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

(THE ORGANIST PLAYS CHRISTMAS MUSIC SOFTLY DURING THE FOLLOWING):
THE HANGING OF THE GREENS: THE EVERGREEN, THE HOLLY, THE MISTLETOE, THE STAR, THE BELLS.

MINISTER: WE'RE BRINGING IN THE CHRISTMAS GREENS FOR CHRISTMAS ~~THE~~ IS HERE! ~~BRING~~ HEAR
WE'RE BRINGING HOLLY, SPRUCE, AND PINE
TO HANG UPON THE WALLS AND SHINE
WITH CHRISTMAS LOVE AND CHEER.

WE'RE COMING WITH THE CEDAR BOUGHS!
WE'RE BRINGING CHRISTMAS IN!
AND ALL THE CHILDREN HERE AND THERE
AROUND THE WORLD AND EVERYWHERE
ARE SINGING CHRISTMAS IN.

EVERYWHERE, IN HOMES AND IN CHURCHES, WE HANG THE CHRISTMAS GREENS. BUT IN OUR MERRIMENT AND JOY WE CALL TO MIND THE MEANING OF EACH ONE. THEY ARE NOT MERE TRADITIONS, BUT SYMBOLS TO REMIND US OF THE GIFT OF GOD IN HIS SON.

THE EVERGREENS

(AS THE READER BEGINS THIS SELECTION, THE EVERGREEN BEARERS COME DOWN THE AISLE OF THE CHURCH). (THEY CARRY VASES OR BUNCHES OF PINE, CEDAR, SPRUCE OR ANY EVERGREENS.)

MINISTER: BRING IN THE GREENS, THE PINE, THE FIR, THE CEDAR, - ALL ARE A PART OF CHRISTMAS JOY. THEIR SPICY FRAGRANCE AND EVERGREEN REMIND US EVEN WHEN ALL IS BARREN OF THE PROMISED REAWAKENING OF THE SANCTUARY WITH THE BOUGHS OF EVERGREEN AS A PROMISE OF THE NEW LIFE AND A SIGN OF THE HOPE THAT IN CHRIST ALL LIVE FOREVER.

(WHEN THE EVERGREEN BEARERS ARRIVE AT THE CHANCEL THEY STAND REVERENTLY UNTIL THE READER HAS FINISHED. THEN THE READER PLACES THE GREENS ON THE ALTAR OR THE BEARERS THEMSELVES PLACE THEM APPROPRIATELY. AFTER THE GREENS HAVE BEEN PLACED THE BEARERS RETURN TO THE CHANCEL STEPS.)

1.

MINISTER: THE GLORY OF LEBANON SHALL COME UNTO THEE, THE FIR TREE, THE PINE TREE, AND THE BOX TOGETHER, TO BEAUTIFY THE PLACE OF THY SANCTUARY.

(THE EVERGREEN BEARERS TURN AND TAKE SEATS IN THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH.)

THE HOLLY

(THE HOLLY BEARER COMES DOWN THE AISLE. HE CARRIES A LARGE HOLLY WREATH.)

MINISTER: GLEAMING BRIGHTLY IN THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS CANDLES THE GLISTENING LEAVES AND BRIGHT BERRIES OF THE HOLLY REMIND US OF THE JOY AND HAPPINESS THAT COMES TO MANKIND AS WE REMEMBER THE BIRTH OF GOD'S SON. AS WE HEAR AGAIN THE WORDS OF THE OLD CAROL, WE KNOW THAT CHRIST WAS BORN FOR US.

(THE HOLLY BEARER PLACES THE WREATH, THEN RETURNS TO THE CHANCEL STEPS).

MINISTER: THE HOLLY AND THE IVY, WHEN THEY ARE BOTH FULL-GROWN

OF ALL THE TREES THAT ARE IN THE WOOD,

THE HOLLY BEARS THE CROWN.

THE HOLLY BEARS A BERRY, AS RED AS ANY BLOOD.

AND MARY DORE SWEET JESUS, TO DO POOR SINNERS GOOD.

THE MISTLETOE

(THE HOLLY BEARER LEAVES AND THE MISTLETOE BEARER STARTS DOWN THE AISLE. SHE CARRIES A LARGE SPRAY OF MISTLETOE TIED WITH SILVER AND GREEN RIBBON.)

MINISTER: THE MISTLETOE HAS BECOME FOR US THE SIGN OF MERRIMENT SYMBOLIZED BY THE KISS; BUT, IN ANCIENT TIME, TWO WARRIORS MEETING UNDER THE MISTLETOE, THREW DOWN THEIR ARMS. THUS, IT BECAME A CUSTOM AMONG THE CHRISTIANS TO PLACE A SPRAY OF MISTLETOE UPON THE ALTAR AT CHRISTMAS TIME AS A REMINDER OF THE PEACE OF GOD AND OF THE POWER OF CHRIST TO HEAL THE HURTS OF THE BODY AND SOUL.

(star bearer)
Minister: The star has become for us a sign that that announced the birth of that baby in Bethlehem. For years people sought this sign and when it did come it was shared with the common people, as well as with royalty.

2.

"O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal
beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy
perfect light.

(Bell bearer)

Minister: The bells are a sign of that which rings o
out the joy that once again God has come to dwell
among men. God has provided for the salvation of
mankind and what better way to proclaim this than
with the pealing of bells of all sizes and descrip-
tions.

"I heard the bells on Christmas day their old
familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet, the words repeat of peace on
earth, good will to men.

Then I heard the bells more loud and deep,
God is not dead nor doth he sleep,
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men."

Again a puzzle because place her son like God.

If she turn up preg, Jos no marry
KJV say, espoused, KJV betrothed, Div bib engaged
Jos concern legit because law Jews, betrothed
engaged, same as marriage

Betroth last 1yr/ couple no engage phys contact
only dissolved death/divorce
If man die, woman called widow

In 1st chap Matt Jos concern M. want divorce,
ang of L. appear him/assure all well, should marry
Knowing this, can understand M. reluct near news Gab

This essence acct how M came B with child of MHP
Trend last decade so, de-emph virgin birth theory
Bib schols play dwn take out realm mirac, place
realm ordinary/
Lame arg. clergy no believe virgin birth

Personal I no understand any1 profess faith apos crea-
state believe virgin birth, I do not.

2 me this blasphemy
I believe virgin birth, not just because all expl this
portion scrip how came about,
but because one short vs later on in chap,
37th vs, "For with G nothing shall be impossible."
This lead me believe G want do anything imposs,
he do.

Want create purple snow, he do
he want son born diff way, he do.
reason: Js B unique/set apart/out of ordinary.
G can impregnate virgin/make conceive if he choose

2 me very basic & simple G can accomplish it
(illustration 2 boys stories)
both may been little mistaken theol, but on nt break

1 thing no read of M, she had doubts,
perhaps aid, but no record
Many times we no take our roles seriously enuf,
we get in project & say, "If I had only known I
would not have tackled this job."
It safe bet M had mixed emot during mths preg.
But regardless emot she saw role thru

And what contrast most us
& we only G so far either cannot or will not G
further

Edwin Markham tell cobbler like this
(illustration cobbler & Js coming as guest)
A not complly know role or understand brot him
in2 world/raised him/scared him with world

"Songs in the Night: Song of Immanuel!"

Text: Isaiah 7:14,
"Shall a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and
I call his name Immanuel."

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

Story poor ragged boy being Christ child

10 yr girl run down street

1 story true, 1 false

strange parallel tween 2

we prob like hear nice stories, make feel good

we tell moral lessons,

but many times in real life these lessons no us

10 yr girl good examp.

What outcome plan of G if Mary "Look, I no care use
my body this way. Let me alone, get someone else?"
God prob find some? else,
but point is, Mary willing B used by G/willing get
involved.

7th chap is, read plan & be set motion (read text)

he was say/sometime futur G intervene affairs men

come earth form human being

real signif all this & going do impossible

he make virgin conceive

Bib schols all kinds change verse, alter meaning etc

try make peop believe all diff ways,

all because it phys/biolog imposs 2 take place

But at all overlook, this work of G

not man/woman sit down discuss family planning

it not normal way do things at all

It G's plan/G's method/G's intervent in world

Virgin birth Js by infin mind/wisdom M. J.

Let's look Luke account of event in his Gosp

Ang/Gab visit Mary in Nazareth

she surprised/troubled as well

surprise because no everyday have ang visit

Man understand troubled if try visualize how we

would react same circum

If sudden we confront by mess. of L as ang,

most us severely frightened I sure

This wit M find self in, along with surprise hears

some unnerving things, 2 say least

he told him favored/ with her/blessed among women

gab explain she have baby/name Js/ B son most M

this God/ 2 B king rule unending kingdom

which prove again we never complly know when what 3
we do or say, may be done for Xp himself

We go thru same scrips ea yr
& sing same songs, & I often wonder how often it just
mechanics we go thru

But if truly seek enter in2 experience of Xp child
come anew into lives,
it can B total new experience

But must B careful no call upon G 2 come in2 world
as ancient Jews, & then no recognize when He appear
on scene.

We sing our Songs In The Night,
but 2 often we sing without expect G 2 appear in
that Babe of Bethlehem.

We sing, (O Come, O Come Immanuel)

Let us not only sing 4 coming of Immanuel, G with us,
but let us know He has indeed come,
& may He live in each of our lives as our Lord and
Saviour Js Xp.

Come, let us this Advent season go even unto Bethlehe
to see this thing which has come to pass, which the
Lord has made known unto us.

"Songs In The Night: Song Of Immanuel!"

Text: Isaiah 7:14, "Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

(Story of poor ragged boy and being Christ child in disguise)

(Several years ago a news item appeared in the newspaper that told of a 10 year old girl who was running down a main highway, without any clothes on, screaming for help and no one would stop. The story of the ragged little boy ~~xxxxxx~~ who turned out to be the Christ child is only a legend. The story of the 10 year old girl is true. But what a strange parallel between the two. Somehow I cannot help but think that we like to hear nice little stories that make us feel good and tell us wonderful little moral lessons, but when it comes to confronting things in real life, we turn away from what we should do. I cannot help but believe that many of the people who passed the little girl by were people who called themselves Christians.

What do you suppose the outcome of the plan of God would have been had Mary said to the angel of the Lord, "Look, I don't care to have my body used as a means to do something for God. Let Him get someone else and let me alone. I don't care to get involved." Probably God would have found someone more worthy to bear His Son, but the point of all of this is that Mary was willing to be used of God, for His purpose. She was willing to get involved.

In the ⁷~~4~~th chapter of Isaiah we read of this plan of God being set in motion almost 8 centuries before it actually took place. Isaiah wrote, "Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." He was saying that sometime in the future God was going to intervene into the affairs of men, and He was going to come to earth in the form of a human being. The real significance of all of this was that God was going to do something that was impossible to do, He was going to make a virgin conceive. Now biblical scholars of all kinds have taken this verse and they have changed it and they have altered its meaning, they have tried to have people believe it in all kinds of different ways, simply because it is a biological impossibility for a virgin to conceive. But what is overlooked

in all of this is that this is the workings of God. It is not a man and a woman sitting down together and ~~discussing the~~ planning to have a family. It is not the normal way of doing things at all. It is God's plan, God's method, and God's intervention into the world. The virgin birth of Jesus came about by the infinite mind and wisdom of Almighty God.

This is an issue that has been the cause of much controversy in the present day Christian Church. There are those who tell us that we need not believe this prophecy because it could not have happened as stated. There are those who tell us that it is unnecessary to cling to such old-fashioned beliefs. Surprisingly a goodly portion of the clergy do not believe in the Virgin Birth. I do not know what the present day statistics are, but

But let us look at this event as it is ~~portrayed~~ portrayed in Luke's Gospel. As the angel of the Lord, identified as Gabriel visits Mary at her home in Nazareth, Mary is not only surprised by this visit, but she is troubled by his greeting to her. We can understand why she would be surprised, because it is not every day that an angel of God appeared to individuals. We can also understand ~~xxxx~~ why she was troubled if we ^{try to visualize how we} ~~place ourselves in her~~ would react in similar circumstances. If suddenly we were confronted with a messenger of the Lord, in the form of another being, most of us would be severely frightened I am sure.

Well this is the situation Mary found herself in, and along with her surprise at this unexpected turn of events, she hears some things that are rather unnerving to say the least. She is told that she is highly favored, the Lord is with her, and she is blessed among women. ~~xxxxbigxxxxxxfor~~ ~~Maryxxxxxx~~ Gabriel then explains to Mary what is going to take place. He tells her she is going to conceive a child to be named Jesus, and this child will be the Son of the Highest, which was God, and that he was going to be a king and rule over a kingdom that was unending.

Again, Mary is puzzled because this would place her in ~~xxxxxx~~ a bad light as far as Joseph was concerned. If she suddenly turns up pregnant, Joseph is not going to marry her. The NJV says she was espoused to Joseph,

and the RV says betrothed, while the living Bible says engaged. ~~Thisxxx~~ Mary's concern here was legitimate, because in the law of the Jews, being betrothed or engaged was as binding as marriage. The betrothal lasted for a year, and even though ~~they~~ the couple did not engage in physical contact, the betrothal could only be ~~broken~~ dissolved by divorce. If the man to whom a woman was betrothed should happen to die, the woman was called a widow. Once two people were betrothed only death could break the bond, or in rare cases a divorce. We read in the first chapter of Matthew that Joseph was concerned about Mary being pregnant and wanted to divorce her privately, but again an angel of the Lord appeared to him and assured him that all was well, and that he should marry Mary. Knowing this then, we can readily understand Mary's reluctance to hear the news of the angel Gabriel.

~~But the one portion of this scripture that really~~ Now this in essence is the account of how Mary came to be with child by the holy spirit. The trend for the past decade or more has been to de-emphasize this virgin birth theory. Biblical scholars have been playing it down and taking it out of the ~~miraculous~~ miraculous and placing it in the realm of the ordinary. A large segment of the clergy no longer believe in the Virgin Birth. Personally I cannot understand how anyone can deliberately profess their faith using the Apostles Creed, and state they believe in the Virgin Birth, when they do not. To me this is blasphemy. I believe that Jesus Christ was indeed born of the Virgin Mary, not because it is ~~stated~~ ^{just explained} in this portion of scripture how it all came about, but because of one short little verse further on in this Scripture. In the 37th verse of Matthew chapter 1 we read, "For with God nothing shall be impossible." This would lead me to believe that if God wanted it to snow purple snow, He would do it. And if He wanted His Son to be born in a different way in order for Him to be unique and set Him apart from the rest of us, then God could impregnate a woman and make her conceive while she was still a virgin.

To me it is very basic and very simple and something I believe that God can do and accomplish. It is as simple as the little boy who said there were two

virgins in the Bible. "The Virgin Mary, and the King James Virgin." Or like a other boy who drew a nativity scene in school ~~xx~~ when the teacher told the class to draw what Christmas meant to them. She looked at his paper and he had drawn ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxchild~~ very visibly Mary, Joseph and the baby. But he had also drawn a rather fat looking individual and the teacher asked about it, and he replied, "That Round John Virgin, like we sing about in Silent Night." Both of these boys may have been a little mistaken in their theology, but at least they were on the right track.

One thing we do not read of Mary and that is she had doubts. Perhaps she did, but it is not recorded. Many times we do not take our roles in life seriously enough and when we become involved in a project or find ourselves in the middle of it we say, "Boy if I had only known what I was letting myself in for I would not have tackled this job." It is a safe bet that Mary must have had mixed emotions many times during those months of her pregnancy. But regardless of her mixed emotions, she saw her chosen role through. And what a contrast she is to most of us, for we can only see so far and either cannot or refuse to see any farther. Edwin Markham tells of a cobbler who was much like this:

(Illustration Cobbler and Jesus coming as guest.)

Mary, not completely knowing or understanding her role, brought Him into the world and raised Him, and shared Him with all the world. Which proves again that we never completely know when what we are doing or saying, may be done or said to or for Christ Himself.

We go through the same Scriptures each year and we sing the same songs, and I often wonder how often it is merely mechanics that we are going through. But if we truly seek to enter into the experience of the Christ child coming anew into our lives and into the world, it can be a totally new experience. But we must be careful that we do not call upon God to come into the world as the ancient Jews, and then not recognize Him when He appears on the scene. We sing the "Songs In The Night," but too often we sing them without expecting God to appear in that Babe of Bethlehem.

We sing,

O come O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

O come Thou dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come desire of nations,
Bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease,
Fill the whole world with heavens peace.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel."

Let us not only sing for the coming of Immanuel, God with us, but let us know that He has indeed come, and may He live in each of our lives as our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Come, let us this advent season go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known unto us.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice
before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the
poles with his truth.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 8, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
GORDON KENNEDY, JEFF CAMPBELL - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "JESUS, THE SAVIOR DRAWETH NEAR" STAIRS
"LITTLE SUITE FOR CHRISTMAS" WILSON

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 112 "O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL"

*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O GOD, WHO HAS GIVEN US THE
POWER TO DISCERN GOOD FROM EVIL, HEAR US AS WE CONFESS
OUR SINS. WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE FAILED THEE AND OUR-
SELVES. REGARDLESS OF HOW GOOD WE HAVE BEEN, WE REALIZE
THAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN THE KIND OF PERSON THAT YOU WANT
US TO BE. SOMETIMES OUR BELIEF IN OUR OWN GOODNESS HAS
PREVENTED US FROM SEEING OUR SINFULNESS. WE HAVE FELT
THAT ACKNOWLEDGING YOU HAS MADE US BETTER THAN OTHERS.
OPEN OUR EYES, O LORD, TO OUR HIDDEN SINS, AS WE MAKE A
SINCERE AND HUMBLE CONFESSION IN THE NAME OF CHRIST. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: JOHN 1: 1-14

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

HYMN No. 109 "AWAY IN A MANGER"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

ACOLYTE PWS: STEVE BASEHORE
GORDON KENNEDY.

OFFERING

ACOLYTE OFFERTORY: ANTHEM: "COME THOU LONG - EXPECTED JESUS"
BY WILSON CHOIR AND SOLO BY HOWDY BOLAM.

INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

ANTHEM: "O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM" WILSON

WOMEN'S TWO-PART CHORUS AND CHOIR

SERMON: "SONGS IN THE NIGHT: SONG OF BETHLEHEM!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 18 "THE FIRST NOWELL"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "GLORIA" FROM THE LITTLE SUITE WILSON

----- "CONGREGATION STANDING" -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY

MR. AND MRS. RALPH TAIT IN MEMORY OF "LOVED ONES"

SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: "WALLY FEDER, JOHN SNOW,

MONT MACKINNEY, JAMES MALONEY, STEVE VARGO.

HOSPITALIZED: JAMES STEWART, ROOM 10335, PRES. UNIV.

HOSP. PITTS. 15213; MRS. HARRY L. DUTTER - BCMH.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. STEVE VARGO

AND KAREN KENNEDY.

THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 197.

THOSE ELECTED FOR ELDER: ROBERT BASEHORE AND EUGENE

STEPHENSON; THOSE ELECTED DEACON WERE: MRS. JOAN

MASTER, DONALD KENNEDY, PAUL PFABE AND WILLIAM PFLUGH.

TONIGHT - 6-7 - YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE

TONIGHT - 7-9 - YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEETING

THURS. - 10:30 A.M. - MEETING AND LUNCHEON AT MRS. -

HELEN SHEPPECK'S HOME FOR THE MARY MARTHA CIRCLE.

FRI. - 6:00 - ARC POT LUCK SUPPER - THE GROUP WILL

DECORATE ONE TREE AND PUT UP THE MANGER SCENE.

WE WISH TO EXTEND OUR BEST WISHES TODAY TO MRS.

SHIRLEY LINK WHO HAS A BIRTHDAY TODAY.

NEXT SUNDAY - CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IN THE

UNDERCROFT - COME OUT AND JOIN IN THE FELLOWSHIP

OF THE CHURCH - WE HEARD SANTA WOULD BE THERE.

THE BIBLES IN THE THIRD ORDER ARE IN NOW - PICK THEM

UP IN THE OFFICE.

THE NEW 1975 ENVELOPES ARE ALL OUT - PLEASE DO NOT

USE THEM UNTIL THE FIRST WEEK IN JAN. 1975 - AT THAT

TIME PLEASE THROW ALL BACK YEARS AWAY - EACH YEAR

YOU GET A DIFFERENT NUMBER AND IT IS VERY CONFUSING

TO GO BACK AND PICK UP OLD NUMBERS.

POINSETTA'S WILL ALL BE \$5.50 - PLEASE LEAVE B. KNOW NOW.

welcome visitors/make feel at home

This why decor lites trees/houses/windows
 This why lites candles in ch.
 not mere custom/or have something do,
 it signify Js 4p lite of world present with us,
 when exting end serv, mean Js 4p depart with us,
 & lit of world carried 4th in 2 world by ea worshi
 It show Js 4p not confine this sanc, but anywhere
 is follows take him

lit Js brot at birth, & lite He continue bring in
 lives men/women thruout world, is lite bring order
 out chaos.

In beg world at crea G say, "let B lite, & was lite"
 this lite bring order out chaos,
 At birth Js G say in essen again 2 world, "let B lit
 He send 4th lite shine in 2 darkn settle over world

A darkn despair/frustration/hung/greed/
 " " disease/pover/hate/worry/sin in gen
 " " only overcome by interven force more power
 then itsel

(Illus. man phone booth)
 So is with world - us,
 if we close harts dark surround us,
 & ope live lite be offer 2 us by G,
 (read text again) last part

Where once dark/deapair/ there now lite/hope
 when Js come in 2 hart indiv uncerts/doubts gone
 that pers never walk dark again,
 & he have some1 live inside him, can dispel
 all fears/blacknesses make life nitemare

Phillips Brooks noted minis H. Trin, Phila 1890's
 Song send abrod 4 yr/sec. Holy Land
 Xmas Eve old ch Js suppos born in Beth.
 & ten peop sing him as wors G that ch
 & yrs latefilled emot, sat & wrote,

(Illus. Little Town of Bethlehem)
 only coup mins compose entire him,
 this choir sang as anthem this ch
 Mr. Brooks write "verlast lite, shine dark sts Beth
 if let minds wander, can G anc town nestle dark of
 entire region Palestine,
 & how news birth king dispel some drear dark of day

men of old ask, "where He born King Jews?"
 & ope 2day still ask, "where our King?"
 some found/comes still search
 perhaps can sum up old fable,
 (fable Indian merchant)
 as once again send way lit town with we need
 this lite touch our lives & fill with lite

"Hark! In The Night: Song Of Bethlehem!"

Text: John 1:4-5,
 "...him was life; and the life was the light of men.
 ...and the light shineth in the darkness; and the
 darkness overcame it not."

Scripture: John 1:1-14

(Illus. Luther 'mas tree)
 In ancient world Js born, lite very import.
 pagan religs all had beliefs bout lite/darkness
 mystory religs mostly xmas/delt lite/dark.
 'mostics partic, theory lite/dark

Gnosis/mostic deriv, mean knowledge
 Agnostic from Gnosis
 'mostics possess knowled, knew ans 2 things
 2 them lite/dark realm gods good/evil

constant strug tween good/evil
 Jn speak Js as lite, he tell Jns tics here 3 end
 darkness
 In fact he state, (read text)

In Js, fulness life
 this life answ from G 2 lit dark in lives men
 "And lite shineth dark/* dark overcame it not."

Just remen Jn use past tense when speak peop,
 cause Js lived/died/rose/ascended,
 He now lite shine 4th in world
 Satan, G of dark unable overcome this light
 Thus Jn pose formidable argum 4 his foes

If read other scrips G light referred many other gas:
 Mos. Mast, Js birth herald brite star, or lite
 this lite also sign,
 Is. spoke birth Imman, told G give sign
 Sign not only birth baby mirac way/but sign star

When ang appear shone, "And glory Lord shone round
 about them" lite again.
 Js transfig 64 disc on Mt, "in clothes white as
 snow, & his face shone with lite"
 At tomb ang appear in brite dazz white.

Each instanrefer Light, this light overcome dark.
 (Illus. irl & mother lite of world)

This Jn try convey any1 hard/red words,
 JS LITE OR A LITE

Let us not just look 4 babe/star, 3
let us seek source that lite, which Js Xp,
The Lord, Our Saviour, who is lite of world
his lite that dispel dark gloom inflation,
oil crises, power blackouts & all ills of 2day.
This lite can mend broken homes/marriages,
t' 3 lite can shine dark of endless days of despair
4 any & all who will come 2 lite.

Chorus old hymn sung as yg lad SS invites,
"Come to the lite, tis shining 4 thee; sweetly the
lite has dawned upon ~~me~~ me, once I was blind, but
now I can see, the light of the world is Jesus."

These are the Songs In The Night, & in partic
Song of Beth.

Will U come 2 the lite?

" " surrender 2 Him & let Him shine in dark
of your hart?

If never done so, 2day day 2 do it.

If any here not complete sure relationship Js Xp,

& would like talk about it,

or discuss with me,

C me in office after service,

or contact 2day, or sometime this week,

& I B glad talk with U about it.

"Songs In The Night: Song of Bethlehem!"

Text: John 1:4,5,

"In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness overcame it not."

Scripture: John 1:1-14

(Illustration of Luther and Christmas tree)

In the ancient world into which Jesus was born, light was very important. The pagan religions all had beliefs about light and darkness. The mystery religions which came mostly from Persia, all dealt with beliefs about light and darkness. The Gnostic religion in particular really delved into the theories of light and dark. The word Gnosis from which the word Gnostic is derived, meant knowledge. We have the word agnostic today which is a derivative from Gnosis. The Gnostics were people who were named thus, because they possessed the knowledge, and they supposedly knew the answers to things. To them light was the realm or the area in which the good gods lived and operated. Conversely darkness was the realm in which the evil gods operated and lived. There was to them a constant struggle taking place between good and evil. So when John speaks in his Gospel, using the term Word to apply to Jesus, and pointing to The Word being the Light, he is probably telling the Gnostics and the followers of the mystery religions in that area, that here was The God to overcome the darkness. In fact he states, "In Him was life; and the life was the light of men." In this Jesus was all of the fullness of life. This life is the answer from God to light the darkness in the lives of men. Then he goes on, "And the light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness overcame it not."

We must remember that John is using past tense when he is speaking to these people, because Jesus has lived on earth, He has suffered death, and He has arisen and ascended to God. So John is telling them that the light shone forth into the darkness of the world. ~~There was~~ Satan, the god of darkness was unable to overcome this Light, though he did his worst. Thus we can see that John poses a formidable argument for his foes.

But, if we read in other parts of scripture, we see that light is referred to in many other passages. In the Gospel of Matthew for instance we read that the birth of Jesus was heralded by a bright star, or light in other words.

This light was also a sign. Isaiah spoke of the birth of Immanuel, he told of God giving a sign. The sign was not only the birth of a baby in a miraculous way, but the sign of the savior as well.

When the angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds we read, "And the glory of the Lord shone round about them," light again. When Jesus was transfigured before His disciples on the Mount, "His clothes were as white as snow and His face shone with a light." At the tomb the angel appeared in ~~white~~ bright and dazzling white. Now each of these instances make a specific mention of light, or the appearance of light. In other words, all of these references to light, was something these people could understand and identify with. The light was that which overcame darkness.

(Illustration of girl and mother is light of world)

This is what John was trying to convey to anyone who heard or read his words, "That Jesus Christ, is the Light of the World." This is why we decorate with lights on trees and in windows of our homes. This is why we light candles in church. It is not to observe some time honored custom, or to have something to do. But it is to signify that Jesus Christ, the Light of the world is present. And when we extinguish the candles at the end of the service, we do so to signify that the Light of the world is ~~xxx~~ departing with us, and being carried out into the world by each worshiper who has been here. It is to show that Jesus Christ is not confined to just this sanctuary, but is anywhere that His followers will take Him.

The light that Jesus brought at His birth and the light He continues to bring into the lives of men and women throughout the world, is a light that brings order out of chaos. In the beginning of the world at its creation, God said, "Let there be light" and there was light, and this light brought order out of chaos. At the birth of Jesus, God was in essence saying to the world again, "Let there be light." He was sending forth His light to shine into the darkness that had settled over the world. A darkness of despair, and frustration. A darkness of hunger and greed. A darkness disease, poverty, hatred, worry, and sin in general. A darkness that could only be overcome by the intervention

of a force that was more powerful than the darkness itself.

(Illustration of man in railway station phone booth)

So it is with the world and with us, if we close our hearts to the darkness surrounding us, and we open our lives to the Light that is being offered to us by God, "The Light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness cannot overcome it." Where once there was darkness and despair there is Light and Hope. When Jesus comes into the heart of an individual, the uncertainties and doubts are gone. That person need never walk in darkness again, for he has someone living within his heart that can dispel all of the fears and blacknesses that make life a nightmare.

Phillips Brooks was a noted minister who served the Holy Trinity Church in Philadelphia in the 1800's. His parishioners sent him abroad to travel and study for a year. In December of that year his travels took him to Bethlehem. There he retraced the steps of His Saviour Jesus Christ, and on Christmas Eve he went to the little town of Bethlehem. He stood in the old church, close to the spot where Jesus was supposedly born, and he listened to the people singing hymns as they worshiped God in this church. Two years later he remembered the night, and he was so filled with emotion, that he sat down and wrote, "O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by: Yet in thy dark streets shineth the Everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years, are met in thee tonight." It had only taken him a few minutes to compose ^{the} ~~xxxx~~ entire hymn. This is the lovely hymn our choir sang as a part of their anthem.

What Mr. Brooks mentions is the Everlasting Light shining in the dark streets of Bethlehem. And if we let our minds wander, we can visualize that little ancient town, nestled in the darkness of that entire region of Palestine and how the news of the birth of a king must have dispelled some of the dreary darkness of those days. Men of old came and asked, "Where is he who is born King of the Jews?" And people today are still asking, "Where Is Our King?" Some have found Him and others are still searching.

Perhaps we can best sum all of this up with an old fable.

(Illustration of fable of Indian merchant)

As once again we wend our way to that little Town of Bethlehem, we need to have this light touch our lives, and fill us with light. Let us not just look for the Babe, nor for the star, but let us seek the source of that light, which is Jesus Christ, the Lord, our Saviour who is the Light of the World.

This is the light that dispel the darkness and gloom of inflation and oil crises, power blackouts and all our myriad ills of today. This is the light that can mend our broken homes and marriages. This is the light that can shine into the darkness of endless days of despair for any and all who will come to the light. A chorus of an old, old hymn which I sang in Sunday School as a young boy invites, "Come to the light, tis shining for thee; sweetly the light has dawned upon me, once I was blind, but now I can see; the light of the world is Jesus." These are the Songs In The Night, and in particular The Song of Bethlehem. ~~Will~~ Will you come to the Light? Will you surrender your life to Him, and let Him shine in the darkness of your heart? If you have never done so, today is the day to do it. If ~~any~~ there are any ~~of~~ here, who are not completely sure of your relationship with Jesus Christ and would like to talk about it, or ~~at~~ discuss it with me, you may see me in my office following the service, or contact me ~~this~~ today, or sometime this week, and I will be happy to counsel with you.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 15, 1974
REV. RALPH G. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MRS. CYNDIE SYBERT, YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR
JODIE MARTE, PATTY BASEKORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE MUSIC: "HOW BRIGHTLY SHINES THE MORNING STAR" BACH
"QUIET SONGS OF THE HOLY NIGHT" SMITH

SILENT PRAYER

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 102 "HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING"
*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*EXHORTATION

*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O CHRIST WHO HAS CALLED US IN LOVE TO BE ONE WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH GOD, FORGIVE US WHEN WE HAVE NOT BEEN TRUE TO YOUR CALL; WHEN OUR FAMILIES HAVE NOT BEEN ONE IN CHRIST DIRECTING US TO CHRISTIAN GROWTH THROUGH A CHURCH UNITED IN YOUR NAME; WHEN WE HAVE NOT ATTEMPTED TO LEARN YOUR WILL FOR US; WHEN WE HAVE FAILED TO UNDERSTAND OUR COMMUNITY AND ITS NEEDS FOR HEALTHY GROWTH. BE MERCIFUL AND UNDERSTANDING, GRANTING US FORGIVENESS AND THE WILL AND DESIRE TO GROW IN CHRISTIAN UNITY. AMEN."

*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN

*PRAISE

*PASTOR: 10 LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.

*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY No. 551

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATTHEW 2: 1-12

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

HYMN No. 105 "WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS BY NIGHT"

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

*GLORIA PATRI

*CALL TO PRAYER

*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.

*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.

*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: ANTHEM: "THE BLESSED BIRD" BRISTOL
ANTHEM: "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN" (YOUTH CHOIR)
(SPIRITUAL)

SERMON: "SONGS IN THE NIGHT: SONG OF A STAR!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 105 "ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD"

*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "THREE KINGS" HOPKINS

----- *CONGREGATION STANDING -----

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY MR. & MRS. JAMES STEWART FOR MRS. ESTHER YOUNG (MOTHER) SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *PAUL RIEMER, DARYL TAIT, JOHN DREHER, GARY PENAR AND DON KINGSLEY. DEACON AND MRS. ROBERT KNAUER WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: MRS. MARGARET COVERT AND

*HOSPITALIZED: MRS. O.H. (DOROTHY) NICHOLAS - ICU, MR. JAMES STEWART - PRES. UNIV. HOSPITAL, MR. BERT KNAUER - BCMH.

*TONIGHT - 7:00 - CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM IN THE UNDERCROFT - THERE WILL BE FUN AND FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL - SANTA WILL BE HERE - LADIES DON'T FORGET TO BRING THE COOKIES.

WED. - 6:00 P.M. - GOLDEN CIRCLE ANNUAL TUREEN DINNER - HUSBAND OR FRIENDS ARE INVITED.

FRIDAY - 6:30 - THE ARC WILL GO CHRISTMAS CAROLING FOR SKUTTING - LEAVING SHARP AT 6:30. AFTER CAROLING REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT THE BRIDE MCBRIDE HOME.

*NEXT SUNDAY - HOLY COMMUNION - 11:00 A.M.

*DON'T FORGET AT 11:00 P.M. - CHRISTMAS EVE - HOLY COMMUNION AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE. IF YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN HERE FOR THIS SERVICE - MAKE IT A MUST THIS YEAR. MRS. H. L. CUTTER WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO SENT CARDS, VISITED HER AND REMEMBERED HER IN THEIR PRAYERS.

OUR BEST WISHES AND CONGRATULATIONS GO OUT TO REV. AND MRS. RALPH G. LINK WHO ARE CELEBRATING THEIR 23RD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TODAY.

THE LAST OF THE POINTSUTTA'S WILL BE ORDERED IN THE MORNING. JAN. 12, 19, 26; FEB. 2, 9 AND 23 ARE OPEN FOR FLOWERS.

"Songs In The Night: Song Of A Star!"

2:10

Text: Matthew 2:11, ~~"Then opening their treasures~~

" when they saw the star they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy."

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men who were following the star came upon a young shepherd boy. This lad was left behind by the other shepherds who had gone to pay homage to Jesus. His duty was to tend the fires while they were gone. The boy saw the treasures these men were taking to Jesus, and he was very sad. He could not go to Bethlehem because he had no gift and besides he had to take care of the fires. Suddenly, he had an idea. He dashed from fire to fire piling up the wood so the fires would maintain themselves for sometime. Then he ran down the hill toward the town of Bethlehem. Outside of the stable he stopped, he still had no present to bring. But then he remembered that on the way down the hill he had noticed a pretty little flower growing by itself. So he ran up the hill, plucked the flower and again came to the stable. He entered very quietly and watched in fascination while the kings gave their magnificent gifts, and he wished he had something a little more elegant to give. Mary, the mother looked in his direction and motioned for him to come closer saying, "We have been waiting for you, come bring your precious gift." He very timidly approached the manger and very gently placed the flower in the baby's hand. The baby smiled and raised the flower to his lips and kissed it. When he put the flower down, the center of the flower had turned a beautiful gold, where his lips had touched it. And that is how the flower we call the Daisy got its yellow center.

Another little boy named Juan who lived in the Mexican village of Cardenas, was very sad one Christmas Eve, because he had nothing to bring to the church that night. It was the custom that each one would bring their gift to the church so the three wise men could carry the gifts to the babe of Bethlehem. On this Christmas Eve he found himself standing outside the little church listening to the beautiful music and wishing he had a gift to bring. He stood on tiptoe and peeked in the windows to see all the beautiful gifts that had been placed on the altar. Surely the Holy child will be pleased this

birthday he thought. He stomped his little feet clad in shoes worn through in the snow to keep warm, and clasped his thin sweater around him. Sadly he knelt in the snow to pray. Though he tried very hard not to cry, the tears trickled out of his tightly closed eyelids, and rolled down his cheek on onto the snow. Suddenly the music seemed to grow louder, and he felt a great warmth as though the summer sun were shining. He opened his eyes and as he looked at the ground he saw a beautiful flower growing where he was kneeling. Very excitedly he touched it, and thought at last he had a gift for the Christ Child. With great reverence ~~he~~ because he knew it was a miracle, he plucked it and took it into the church and laid it on the altar. The flower had beautiful scarlet petals and a yellow center, and ever afterward the Mexicans called it the flower of the Holy Night. In our country we call it the Poinsettia.

Now these two little stories of flowers and the Christ Child are merely legends, but they show one thing, and that is the giving of gifts of love. Gifts that were given from the heart, and thereby gifts that are priceless. Most of us from childhood on, have looked forward to Christmas Day. We looked forward to it because it was a day in which we got things. We didn't think of much else, but what we were going to receive. Perhaps we still look forward with anticipation to Christmas morning. We can readily understand this in children because to them it is a tremendous amount of fun, and so it should be. But we must learn, and teach our children as well, that it is a time of giving as well as getting. It is a time of sharing instead of a time of taking. This is the real purpose of Advent, to prepare us for Christmas. For the birth that is to take place and to recognize it as the gift from God. To know for a certainty that God stepped into the affairs of men, and He chose to do so in a way that we could understand, and that was in the form of a human as in a baby at that. Almost everyone loves babies.

But many times we reach this stage of the Christmas season and we hear people moaning and complaining that Christmas is too commercial. And many times they are right. When we were in Connecticut we went into a K-Mart or some other

large store and they were putting away the summer things and replacing them with winter items, among which were Christmas decorations. Salespeople and sales-clerks everywhere, begin to rub their aching feet around about now, and ~~xxxxxxxx~~ more than one of them is heard to exclaim, "I'll be glad when Christmas is over." Everything is hustle and bustle, hurry and get done. Run, and take care of this, rush and do that. Push and shove, and bake and cook and clean and scrub. In all of this we lose the real meaning of what it is all about.

There are two seasons in the year that are really special to me. One is Easter and the other is Christmas. Each one fills my heart to overflowing. Not because ~~if~~ they are holidays of festivity and fun, but because of the significance it has for me personally. I recognize and realize that each of them is a day observed in which God did something for me. Me, as miserable as I am, God thought enough of me to show his love toward me. Is it any wonder we lose sight of what Christmas is all about when Jesus Christ takes second place to Santa Claus, and the Easter Bunny precedes the risen Saviour. Santa Claus is fine, and so is the Easter Bunny, but we should teach our children that all of the giving and getting is done because God gave to us. We need not only teach it to our children, but to ourselves as well, so that it becomes written on our hearts and we really know what it is all about.

People tell us to "Put Christ Back In Christmas," but how can we if all who are supposed to act like Christians join all of those who merely see Christmas as another day to get drunk, or to have a wild immoral party at their place of employment? The only way we will ever get Christ back in Christmas is to be Christians in all of our actions, and in all of our lives, and not just on Sunday.

The scripture we read for this morning told once again of the visit from the Wise Men to pay their respects to Jesus Christ the babe of Bethlehem, and it is a wonderful story of gifts and giving. But the thing that is so often overlooked, is found in the 10th verse of this portion of scripture.

We read: "When they saw the star they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy."

They were overcome with joy, for they knew they had reached the destination toward which they had traveled. That star had beckoned and shone for them, and had led them to where the actual source of that light was born. They ~~There~~ came searching and found what they were searching for. Many others have searched and are still searching and are not aware of what it is they seek.

(Illustration 15 year old boy's poem written before suicide)

"The sky is blue and way too high
I wish I could get beyond the sky
There's things up there better than dope,
Is there a chance, is there some hope?
Stoned crazy I'm out of my mind
I know there's something I can't find
A home and love is that what I've lost?
I've got to get there whatever the cost.
Is there a ticket I need to buy
To get off this earth and into the sky?
I hear there's a god in that ocean of blue
And he's calling and crying for me and you.
Is there a ticket I need to buy to get off this earth and into the sky?

This poem was clipped from the Tampa Tribune recently. It was written by a 15 year old boy and was found on his dead body after he had hung himself from an oak tree 40 feet from his home. You can almost hear the screams of the young man as he was searching for something more in life than he found. He wondered if you could buy your way to eternal life. If he had only known it was free. Pat Kelley was 15 years old, and that's all he'll ever be."

Another young man who was 34 years old when he died of cancer in 1954 was a jazz musician. His name was Alfred S. Burt and each Christmas he would compose a Christmas Carol and he would send these to his parents as his Christmas Card from himself. Each year his carols are becoming more popular, but the one which he wrote, that I believe really speaks to us is entitled "The Star Carol."

"Long years ago on a deep winters night, high in the heavens a star
shone bright.
While in a manger a wee baby lay, sweetly asleep on a bed of hay.
Jesus our Lord was that baby so small, laid down to sleep in a
humble stall.
Then came the star and it stood overhead, shedding its light round
His little head.
Dear baby Jesus how tiny thou art, I'll make a place for Thee in
my heart.
And when the stars in the heavens I see, Ever and always, I'll
think of Thee.

Men came from the East seeking a king by following a star. ~~And then~~ A
young man looked at the heavens and saw Jesus in the very stars themselves.

Another young man looked at the heavens and saw nothing. These are the "Songs In The Night," and in particular, "The Song Of A Star." This is the message that needs to be conveyed to a world that is caught up in all ~~the~~ of the hollow laughter and gaiety of a celebration that has become more of a holiday, than a Holy Day. This is the message that is binding upon each of us that we must share with the 15 year olds who are searching for life's answers. This is the message we must share with all of those of our day, who though surrounded by fun and games, are lost and alone. The message that, "Unto you ~~this day~~ has been born again this day, A SAVIOUR who is Christ the Lord."

The message that this Saviour's birth was heralded by a star, A star that when seen by men, "They rejoiced exceedingly with great joy." And that stars, on trees, in windows, in homes or churches should remind us of Jesus Christ. That we may come to the point as that young man wrote in his Star Carol, "When ~~the stars in the heavens I see~~ the stars in the heavens I see, Ever and always I'll think of Thee," ~~That Lord Jesus may~~ That Lord Jesus may ~~be the star shining~~ be the star shining in our hearts and the heavens of our lives.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT DEC. 22, 1974

REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
MRS. CYNDIE SYBERT, YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR
LODIE MARTE, TERRY MCCLIMANS - ADOPTES

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION ON 11:00 A.M.
PRELUDE MUSIC: "THE WORSHIP OF THE ANGELIC HOST" JAMES
"IN DULCI JUBILO" PETHEL

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 108 "O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM"

*ASCRIPTION - CHORAL AMEN

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*INVOCATION

*PRAISE

*PASTOR - O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS

*PEOPLE - AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE

*DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2: 8-20

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

(ANTHEM BY YOUTH CHOIR) "THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY" - SIMEONE

ANTHEM: "HOLY NIGHT" WILSON - CHANCEL CHOIR

SERMON: "SONGS IN THE NIGHT: SONG OF ADORATION!"

*GLORIA PATRI

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES CREED)

COMMUNION HYMN No. 107 "IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR"

*CALL TO COMMUNION - PAGE 32

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *INSTITUTION *AGNUS DEI

THE HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE RETAIN ELEMENTS UNTIL
ALL ARE SERVED)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - CHORAL AMEN

*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 20 "JOY TO THE WORLD!"

*BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

*POSTLUDE "O THOU JOYFUL" PRICE

THE ELDERS AND DEACONS WILL USHER AND ALSO SERVE

COMMUNION.

ELDER AND MRS. CHESTER STAUFFER WILL REPRESENT
COUNCIL AT THE DOOR TODAY.

NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY MRS. LINDA McMILLIN
AND MRS. JANE ARMSTRONG.

HOSPITALIZED: MR. JAMES STEWART - ROOM 7311 - PREST
HOSPITAL - PITTS. (HE WILL BE COMING HOME THIS WEEKEND.)
THERE WILL BE A MEETING AFTER CHURCH FOR ALL THE BOYS
WHO WANT TO PLAY BASKETBALL.

TONIGHT - ANYONE INTERESTED FROM THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP
AND YOUTH CHOIR IN GOING CAROLING - PLEASE MEET AT
THE CHURCH AT 7:00. THEY WILL RETURN TO THE CHURCH
AFTERWARDS FOR SOME WARM REFRESHMENTS.

TUES. EVE. - CHRISTMAS EVE. - CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
AT 1:00 P.M. - HOLY COMMUNION. 10:00/8:00 P.M.

WE INVITE ALL CHRISTIANS REGARDLESS OF DENOMINATION
TO PARTAKE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER WITH US.

PLEASE FILL OUT A COMMUNION CARD SO THAT OUR CHURCH'S
RECORDS ARE ACCURATE. YOU WILL FIND THEM IN THE
RECEPTACLE IN THE BACK OF THE Pews.

IF VISITORS WILL PUT EITHER THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF
THEIR CHURCH OR THEIR PASTOR'S NAME AND ADDRESS ON
THE BACK OF THE COMMUNION CARD, IT WILL BE FORWARDED.
THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY WAS 254.

YOU MAY TAKE YOUR POCKET SET AFTER THE 11 O'CLOCK
SERVICE TODAY OR LEAVE IT AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO
A SHUT-IN.

WE HAVE JANUARY 12, 9, 26; FEB. 2, 16, 23; MAR 2 OPEN
FOR ALTAR FLOWERS - PLEASE LEAVE BEA KNOW TODAY IF
YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ONE OF THESE SUNDAYS - THE
FLOWERS ARE STILL \$8.00 - BECAUSE WE HAVE LADIES WHO
WILL ARRANGE THEM.

NEXT SUNDAY IS THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR AND THE
LAST CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR FINAL COMMITMENT FOR THE
YEAR. THE CHURCH TREASURER'S BOOKS CLOSE AS OF DEC.
31ST. AND EVERYTHING AFTER THAT DATE WILL BE CREDITED
TO 1975.

REV. AND MRS. COOPER WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE
NICE PEOPLE THAT SENT CARDS AND WERE SO GOOD TO THEM
THEY WISH YOU ALL A BLESSED CHRISTMAS.

Welcome visitors/don't card/book
thanks again

Some Tapes from communion available
if want sign us

"Songs In The Night: Song Of Adoration!"

Text: Luke 2:20,

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen as it was told unto them."

Scripture: Luke 2:8-20

A first grade class was singing Christmas carols in school on the last day of classes before the Christmas vacation. The teacher was walking throughout the class while they sang, and she thought she detected the wrong words coming from a certain part of the room. So she had them sing the verse over again while she made her way to that part of the room. They were singing "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night," and sure enough, one little boy was singing, "While Shepherd Washed Their Socks By Night."

In our scripture this morning we read once again, the beautiful story of the visit to the shepherds by the angel of the Lord. This is perhaps the most widely quoted portions of the Nativity story. The visit by the Magi may be much more vivid in detail and much more thrilling because of the nature of the station in life held by these men, as well as the magnificent presents they brought. ~~But for the simplicity of the shepherd story~~ people remember these kingly visitors because most of us are awed by royalty. We are more accustomed to the common things of life, and so when royalty is mentioned we are inquisitive as to how they live and act. In the Lerner and Loewe musical "Camelot" there is a song entitled "I Wonder What The King Is Doing Tonight," which is an expression of how ~~the~~ the common people ponder the ways of royalty. But for sheer simplicity, the story of the shepherds ~~is the~~ and their involvement in the Nativity is tops.

It is rather significant when we read this story, to know that shepherds were mostly despised by the orthodox good people of the day. Shepherds were unable to keep the minute details of the ceremonial laws. They could not observe all of the rules and regulations and meticulous hand-washings that the law imposed upon them. They had to be with their flocks, constantly looking after their needs. Thus, the orthodox people looked upon them as being very common.

William Barclay states that he believes these shepherds were rather significant

people, for the reason they might have been Temple shepherds. An unblemished lamb was sacrificed in the Temple morning and evening. To meet the demand for pure and unblemished lambs, the Temple authorities had their own special private flocks. These flocks were pastured near Bethlehem. This would be necessary, because we are told that even today, there is rich lush green grass that grows abundantly in and around Bethlehem. Bethlehem is situated about 5 miles from Jerusalem, so it is quite likely the Temple flocks were pastured there. To add to the significance of this story, wouldn't it be appropriate that the ones who tended the lambs to be used in the Temple for the forgiveness of sins, would be among the first to see the Lamb of God who take away the sin of the world? If this is the case, then we can understand why the shepherds were among the first to be visited with the news of this birth.

But we must also observe that although the shepherds were visited by the angel of the Lord, and they heard the angelic host praising God with glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men," ~~and x x x x x x x x x x~~ they refused to be completely overawed by it all. They were very much afraid we are told, and well they should have been. But when the angels had departed from them and they once again found themselves alone with their sheep, they said to one another, "let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." They were willing to re-act to the situation, in other words.

So we are told they went to the stable and found Him lying in the manger as they were told it would be. But even with being told by angels, and then seeing it firsthand, they were not content to let it go at that, for they had to broadcast it for we are told, "And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child."

Thus they went out and told of ~~x x x x x~~ the events of that night. The 20th verse of this portion of Scripture tells the end result of the visit of the shepherds to ~~x x x x~~ the Christ child. We read, "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

They were not content to remain mute. They had to tell of the events of that night. Their hearts and their lives had been filled to overflowing by what God had done. Although they had been involved in an event out of the ordinary, they were still filled with the wonder of it all. Here was a group of common people, who were privileged to be a part of a miracle of God. They had been involved in what we would call a "mountaintop experience." Yet, with the immensity ~~xxxxx~~ and the vast implications of this act, and although they were on a plane far above their normal station in life, they were able to come back to the common ordinary level and still give praise and Glory to God. This is the wonder of it all. That, unlike most people who would resent being brought back to the hum-drum, common work-a-day world, they could continue to look to God in praise.

Perhaps this is why God chose these men to be the recipients of this wonderful event. Thousands of people had crowded that town on that particular night. All of them had left Bethlehem either the next day or a day or so following, never knowing what had taken place there. Many of them had been guests at the inn, and had left the premises completely unaware that an earth shaking event had occurred in the stable in the back. A goodly portion of them were perhaps from the aristocracy, or were people of wealth and means. But it was not to them that the birth of Jesus Christ was revealed. The prophet Isaiah ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ in the 53rd chapter asks the question, "And to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?" Then he goes on to describe the common ordinary life that Jesus was to lead. Is it any wonder then, that the common ordinary Jesus, was revealed to those persons to whom he could identify?

But there is yet another aspect of this revelation to common shepherds that needs to be looked at.

John Nelson Darby was a noted clergyman in Ireland. He was summoned once to see a poor boy who was dying. He told of having to walk for over an hour over b^r roads to get to the house. He entered the miserable hovel they called a house and in the dim interior was unable to distinguish any signs of life. Then he noticed an old woman sitting on a stool and bent over the embers of a peat fire. He asked for the boy and she pointed to a darker corner of the room. He went to the corner and there on a heap of straw was a skinny boy of about 17 or 18. He had a very thin cover over him and very evidently was in

a state of extreme suffering and exhaustion. He appeared to be in the last stages of tuberculosis. Mr. Darby inquired as to his knowledge of God and his own relationship concerning his salvation. At first the boy did not respond, but then he uttered a few words in which he told how his mother had told him something of a God and a future judgement, but he had never been taught to read. His mind on the subject was a complete blank.

Mr. Darby tells of being sick at heart and unknowing as to how to approach the subject with this mortally sick boy. He prayed that God would guide him so he could prepare this lad for eternity, if it was not too late already. He said he looked at the boy and with a sincere pity that he felt for him, he began by ~~saying~~ telling him, "My boy, you are very ill; I fear you suffer a great deal." The boy answered, "Yes, I have a very bad cough, and when I cough it hurts me so." "Have you had this cough long," Mr. Darby inquired? "Yes, almost a year now. It was about this time of year when one of my father's sheep went astray. My father keeps a few sheep on the mountain and this is how we live. There was snow upon the ground and my father told me one of the sheep was missing, and so I went to find him. I had a long way to go before I found it, but I never stopped until I got there. The sheep did not want to follow me back, and so I had to carry it on my shoulders all the way home. It took me the whole night to do this, and I was completely exhausted. It was then that I caught this cold. Mother tells me I will never get better now. But I guess God knows best, and anyway I did my best to save the sheep." And with this Mr. Darby was able to ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ share the Gospel story of Jesus with this boy using Jesus as the Son looking for the lost sheep and God as the Father who sent him to seek the sheep. The boy was able to understand ~~xxx~~ God's plan of salvation and accepted Christ as His Saviour, just before he died.

Now this is the real significance of the revelation to the shepherds at the birth of Jesus Christ. His birth was heralded to them to show that here was the good shepherd. Here was the one sent by God to seek the lost sheep of the world. This is the "Song In The Night" the shepherds sang, "A Song of Adoration." Their hearts were filled with the wonders shown them by Almighty God and very possibly they sang much as ~~xxx~~ we do,

"O come, let us adore ~~xxxx~~ Him, Christ, the Lord."

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 29, 1974
REV. RALPH C. LINK, PASTOR
MRS. MARILYN STEPHENSON, ORGANIST
MR. RALPH COOPER, CHOIR DIRECTOR
JODI MARTE, PATTY BASEHORE - ACOLYTES

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.
"A CHRISTMAS PASTORALE"

PRELUDE:
SILENT PRAYER
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 120 "JOY TO THE WORLD!"
*ASCRPTION - CHORAL AMEN
*EXHORTATION
*CONFESSION (IN UNISON) "O GOD, WHO PUTTEST INTO OUR
HEARTS SUCH DEEP DESIRES THAT WE CANNOT BE AT PEACE
UNTIL WE REST IN THEE! MERCIFULLY GRANT THAT THE
LONGING OF OUR SOULS MAY NOT GO UNSATISFIED BECAUSE
OF ANY UNRIGHTOUSNESS OF LIFE THAT MAY SEPERATE US
FROM THEE. OPEN OUR MINDS TO THE COUNSELS OF ETERNAL
WISDOM; BREATHE INTO OUR SOULS THE PEACE WHICH PASSETH
UNDERSTANDING. LET OUR HUNGER AND THIRST BE FOR
RIGHTEDOUSNESS, THAT WE MAY BE FILLED WITH THE BREAD OF
HEAVEN. O LORD, GIVE US GRACE TO SEEK FIRST THY KINGDOM;
AND WE KNOW THAT THOU WILT ADD UNTO US ALL THINGS NEEDFUL.
AMEN."
*KYRIE (CHOIR, CONGREGATION AND PASTOR)
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON - CHORAL AMEN
*PRAISE
*PASTOR: "O LORD OPEN OUR LIPS.
*PEOPLE: AND OUR MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE
*DOXOLOGY No. 551
SCRIPTURE LESSON: II CORINTHIANS 5
HYMN No. 102 "HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING"
*AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)
*GLORIA PATRI
*CALL TO PRAYER
*PASTOR: THE LORD BE WITH YOU.
*PEOPLE: AND WITH THY SPIRIT.
*PASTOR: LET US PRAY.
*PRAYER AND PRAYER RESPONSE
FERING

OFFERTORY "IN HIS HOLY PRESENCE" CLARKE
REQUIEM OBSERVANCE "HYMN No. 418 "FOR ALL THE SAINT
*ANTHEM: "THE MAGI" WILSON SOLO - RICHARD BARTON
SERMON: "WHOLLY, HOLEY!"

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER
*HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 117 "O THOU JOYFUL"
*BENEDICTION AND THREE FOLD AMEN
ORGAN POSTLUDE: "WELSH NEW YEAR CAROL" ARR. SIMONE
- - - - - *CONGREGATION STANDING - - - - -

THE LOVELY FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR HAVE BEEN PLACED BY
MRS. BERNICE NICHOLAS IN LOVING MEMORY OF HER "HUSBAND"
SERVING AS USHERS TODAY ARE: *ALVIN TAIT, ROBERT
STEWART, JAMES McClymonds AND MIKE NAZARUK.
MR. & MRS. RALPH KILLEAN WILL REPRESENT COUNCIL AT

THE DOOR TODAY.
THE ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY AND CHRISTMAS EVE. WAS 294.

HOSPITALIZED: MRS. HEGINROTHAM #526; MRS. GRACE
CHARLETON #627 AND MRS. DOROTHY NICHOLAS 267.
NURSERY WILL BE PROVIDED TODAY BY: MRS. PHILIP
SNYDER AND PAULA STEPHENSON.

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE DEPARTED ST. PAUL'S
DURING 1974.

MR. THOMAS RAYMOND	MRS. MAE WEITZEL
MRS. MARGARET DEETER	MRS. HELEN LOUISE CUSTEAD
MR. PAUL HARPER	MRS. ANNA GRACE WILES
MR. CARL F. MILLER	MRS. RONALD ROTH (FRIEND)
MRS. GLADYS E. WINTERS	MRS. MABEL MOULDS (FRIEND)
MRS. BETTY JEAN FILSON	MISS ANNA A. BELL (FRIEND)
	MRS. IDA MAE EBERHART (FRIEND)

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S BOOKS WILL CLOSE AS OF DEC. 31,
1974. ANY MONIES GIVEN AFTER TUESDAY WILL BE CREDITED
TO 1975.

ALL ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD HAVE REPORTS IN FOR YEARBOOK
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

FOR 1975 - WE ARE INITIATING A PROGRAM OF READING
THE BIBLE THROUGH IN A YEAR. WE WILL INCLUDE THIS
MATERIAL WITH THE MAILING OF THE NEWSLETTER.

ORDINATION TAPES ARE AVAILABLE AT A COST OF \$2.00
EACH. ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE ONE - PLEASE LET US
KNOW IN THE OFFICE. *JEFF STRAESSER WALKER ON THIS*
FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR OPEN: JAN. 26; FEB. 2, 16, 23;
MARCH 2.

recome visitors/don't card, book

"holly, holly!"

Mark 2:11, object lesson

the new year is a time of new beginnings, of new hopes and dreams. It is a time when we can start over, when we can begin again. It is a time when we can say "holly, holly!"

Is speak his, John, pharisees disciples

" " unsanforized cloth

" say we "holly, holly!"

New yr and resolutions

scrip Paul wrote Corinthians, 5:17

"I am a new creature, all things are become new."

scrip; the Pharisees and the Sadducees; 3:1-10, and

scrip; the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

if person become a man, he change, become different

(illust Louis 15 France)

new year revolution, we revolu old/new

custom bread revolu

(illust buttons sleeves, cattle trail, streets)

real change needed peop follow old customs

ways, we must step out new direction

(illust woman move Calif.)

woman all wrapped self

say to Cor. Is say to Nico "Be born again"

all old habits/traits in past, spiritual peop

mark say, "we not, I make sound only preach"

not say, I fight battle all time too

say not easy, narrow way

(illust S. Graham man extremes)

say, fall away time, Is pick up, this "New Year"

add call Is, not self-pity,

time fight later forces

(illust Alex Jr. a soldier)

anyone hate, call self a man, is not

" refuse give up old habits/haunts not

" no break with past not a man

" continue old ways that anxious, not a man

he may be "HOLLY, HOLLY" but can become New Year

must come to Is, cannot do otherwise

(text from Cor.)

(text from Mark)

the burden is upon each of us,

"Fellow soldiers who call ourselves Christian,

We must either change our names, or change our

conduct, & /5 is a good time to start.

"holly, holly!"

scrip: 1 Corinthians 5:17,

scrip; if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

scrip; 2:11, "No man seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment, else the new piece that filled it up stretch away from the old, and the tear is made worse"

2nd chap. Mark 9 object lesson

scrip; 2:11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

(read text, rip jeans)

Is speak unsanforized cloth

but as did with jeans Is speak us as well

let sweater/jacket, patch/patch/patch

finally must discard

In scrip Is tell us we "holly, holly!"

we need patch

throwed new yr

peop draw resol a new yr

after yrs/days old pattern life, no better off

this Is say when fruitless put patch harm

he so say throw away,

but implied in vs

then read Cor scrip read what wrote,

we see Is give solut prob sew patch old garments

In partic he give solut 17 vs (read text)

say I come a man he become diff/changed

(illust Louis 15th)

Infortun 4 his ancestors left him revolu 2 reign

he revolu 2 day,

revolu tween old/new

means we look new/old, make decis necess change

brings a better

It is custom that breeds revolu

"we cannot try that, because our cust is this way."

"we always done it this manner, not about 2 change"

(illust. buttons on sleeve)

" buttons, crooked streets"

real change needed in peop who fall age old cust

we refuse ch because we like say, "we set in ways"

this untru, we no set ways, we merely unwill

step out new direc & alter living

(illust woman move Calif.)

here woman wrapped in self/concern lonli her choos

will adjust new life

only when accident she found what took 2 change

she change life from lonli 2 one of happy

This wat I say Corinth

2/

We tell them, any man calls self follow Js Xp,
is new creation.

we change individ, new person

This Js say, "Be born again" to Nicodem

The mean person follower Him, he re-born spiritual

All give 4 old habits, haunts should be in past
All old traits/sourness/bitterness/miserableness/
fits anger/temper tantrums/vulgar lang/swearing
obscenely/selfishness/envy/hatred/strife/greed,
all should be done away with wen Beome Xpians

But peop say, "Sure, preach we know,
you make sound easy/looks good, but hard 2 do."

It not easy, & I never tell anyone otherwise

I fite contin battle my life overcome things of
past, pet habits/peeves etc.

Wen Js state not easy,

Narrow is the way leads everlast life

(Illust Man write Billy Graham tell beat up wife etc)

We know it not easy B complete new creations as

I said should and would

Slip & fall many times maybe,

But Js there 2 lift up & help us

This what mean "New Creation"

No longer need wallow self-pity wen things gloomy
& looking down.

Need only call upon Js & He lift out despair

This why should read WORD of G daily

This why should pray constantly daily

From things of G, we gain strength fite Satan

his forces.

(Illus. Alexander Great & change self or name)

Any1 who hate others calls self Xpian, is not

" " refuse give up old ways & habits not Xpian

" " break with past not Xpian

" " continue, env/miser/vulgar/unforgiv/hateful
etc, things UnXpian not Xpian.

We may be "WHOLLY, HOLLY" but can become new Creation

But must come to Js, cannot do otherwise

"THEREFORE, IF ANY MAN BE IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW
CREATION; OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD, ALL
THINGS ARE BECOME NEW."

"No man seweth a piece of new cloth on an old gar-
ment, else the new piece that filled it up taketh
away from the old, and the tear is made worse."

The burden is upon each of us, "Soldiers, either
change your names, or change your conduct," & 75
Good time to start.

"Wholly, Holey!"

Text: II Corinthians 5:17,

"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Mark 2:21, "No man seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment, else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the tear is made worse."

Scripture: II Corinthians 5

In the 2nd chapter of Mark, the 21st verse, Jesus gave an object lesson to His disciples, ^{to} ~~and~~ the disciples of John and ^{to} ~~of~~ the ~~pharisees~~ disciples of the pharisees. He told them, "No man seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment, else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the tear is made worse." This is a lesson that we can prove just as I did with a pair of old blue jeans, or that we can prove with our lives. Most of us perhaps have a pet sweater or jacket and when it needs mending we patch it, but there comes a time when it can no longer be patched, but instead must be discarded. (In this scrip. Js is telling us indirectly, that we are "Wholly, holey," or completely and entirely full of holes that need patching.) We stand on the threshold of another new year. Most people look forward to the new year by looking back over their lives, and then determining to do better in the next twelve months. Many of these people will actually draw up a list of resolutions that they will strive to keep in the new year. But as is so often the case, after a matter of weeks or even only days, the same old pattern of life emerges and the person is no better off than he was the previous year. This is what Jesus is saying when He speaks of trying fruitlessly to sew new patches on old garments. He did not go on to say that we should discard the garment and throw it away. But I believe that it is implied in this verse, because He did not go on to elaborate how to mend that garment. But when we read what Paul wrote to the Corinthians in the portion of Scripture we read this morning, I believe that we can see that Paul is giving the solution to the problem of sewing patches on old garments. In particular he gives the solution in the 17th verse, where he states, "Therefore, if any man ~~is~~ be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Paul was saying that when one is a Christian, he is involved in being or becoming different from others.

The biographers of Louis the 16th of France wrote of him, "He was an amiable and upright man who would doubtless have made a good leader in a time of peace." But unfortunately for him, his ancestors had left him a revolution to reign in. And we are involved in a revolution today. A revolution that threatens us on all sides. It amounts to a revolution of the old and the new clashing in all areas of life. This doesn't mean that all that is new, is acceptable or good, nor does it mean that all that is old is the best for all. It does mean instead, that we look at new and old and make the decisions and judgements that are necessary to change things for the better.

It is custom that breeds revolution. "We cannot try that, because it is our custom to do it this way," someone says. Or, "We have always done it in this manner and we are not about to change," another one may say. If you men will look at the sleeves of your suit coats, you will notice one, two three, maybe four buttons there. Do you know why they are there? The reason is because in monasteries many centuries ago, the old monks had trouble eating their soup. With the loose sleeves in their robes, the sleeves often ended up in the soup, and so they sewed buttons on the sleeves to keep them out of the soup. Another story is that the troops of Napoleon had the sloppiest and dirtiest sleeves in their uniforms because they used the sleeves to wipe their runny noses in cold weather. Napoleon ordered buttons be sewn on the sleeves, the ~~wifi~~ buttons hurt a fellows nose if he tried to wipe it with his sleeves, and thus we have buttons on our sleeves today that serve no useful purpose. We have all sorts of buttons left over from yesterday. Buttons that we do not need, that have become customs we have outgrown. Most of us have wondered sometimes how streets have gotten in a certain place. Many streets started out as a cattle path through a pasture, which became footpaths for men, and then a wagon ~~path~~ track, and then a road and finally, a city street. We speculate who could have laid out such a crooked meandering street, and we never face the fact that we are following the path of some dumb cow because of

custom. But the real change and the need for change is in the people who follow these age old customs.

But we are reluctant to change because we like to say, "we are set in our ways." But this is untrue, because we are not set in our ways, we are merely unwilling to step out in new directions and to alter our lives.

(Illustration of woman moving to California)

Here was a ~~was~~ woman who was all wrapped up in herself. She was concerned about her loneliness, her lack of friends,. The real problem was that she was unwilling to go out of her way to adjust to her new life. It was only when she found out by accident ~~that~~ what it took to change, that she was able to change her life from one of loneliness to one of happiness.

And this is what Paul was saying to the Corinthians. He was telling them that if any man calls himself a follower of Christ he is a new creation. He is a changed individual. He is a new person. This is also what Jesus was saying when he told Nicodemus that a man had to be born again. He meant that when a person becomes a follower of Him, he is reborn, spiritually. All of the love for the old habits and ways of the world should become things of the past. All of the old traits, the sourness, the bitterness, ~~misery~~ miserableness, fits of anger, temper tantrums, vulgar language and swearing, selfishness, envy, hatred, greed, all of these should be done away with when we become Christians. When we accept Christ as our Lord and Saviour, our lives should become different.

But people say, "Sure, preacher we know that. You make it sound so easy, and it sure looks good, but it sure is hard to do and I find myself slipping back into the same old groove." It is not an easy thing, and I will never try to tell anyone otherwise. I fight a continuous battle in my life to overcome a lot of the pet peeves, and pet habits I have stored up in my lifetime. If anyone tells you it is easy, he is wrong. Even Jesus did not state that it was easy and simple, for he said narrow is the road that leads to everlasting life.

Billy Graham tells how a man wrote to him asking for help. The man said that every night he came home he beat up his wife and children. A man finally got through to him and advised him to reform and he did. Every night after that he came home and he hugged his wife and children so hard, he injured them as badly as he had before he reformed.

We know it isn't easy to change and be completely new creations as Paul said we would and should. But when we slip and fall again and again, Christ is there to lift us up and help us. This is what is meant by being a new creation. We no longer need wallow in the depths of our self-pity when things are gloomy and looking down. We need only call upon Jesus and He will lift us out of our despair. This is why we should be reading in the Word of God each day. For it is from the things of God that we ~~xxxxxx~~ learn to draw our strength for each day.

(Illustration Alexander the Great and unruly soldier)

Any one who hates others and call himself a Christian, is not a Christian. Any one who refuses to give up the old ways and habits of life, and calls himself a Christian, is not a Christian. Anyone who ~~xxx~~ continues to be envious, miserable, vulgar, unforgiving, or any other other things that are un-Christlike, is not a Christian. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Soldiers, either change your name, or change your conduct.









Ralph C. Link
153 Keck Road
Sarver, Pa. 16055
(412) 352-1103

Born: April 9, 1929, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Married: December 15, 1951
Wife: Shirley Margaret Neill
Born: December 8, 1930, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Children: Ralph Dale Link, born May 11, 1955, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Lloyd Alan Link, born May 28, 1958, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Nancy Lynn Link, born March 15, 1961, Butler, Pa.

SCHOOLING:

Graduated from Perry High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 1947

Lay Ministry School, Penn West Conference of United
Church of Christ, September 1965 to May 1969

Commissioned Lay Minister June 1969

Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa.,
September 1970

Graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary May 1974

Ordained to Christian Ministry March 10, 1974

PASTORATES:

As Lay Minister: short term, 1 month or less in
various churches 1965 to 1967

Emlenton Lamartine Charge of United Church of Christ
1967 to 1969

Short term in various churches 1970 until Seminary
entrance July 1970

July 1970 to December 1973 Student Pastor at Trinity
Charge, New Bloomfield, Duncannon, Pa., Penn Central
Conference, United Church of Christ

December 1973 to present, St. Paul's United Church of
Christ, Butler, Pa., Penn West Conference, United
Church of Christ

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

OF

Ralph C. Link

I am the youngest of five children. I was born just prior to the onset of the Depression. Our family was very poor. My father was an alcoholic and my mother was a very religious person who was searching for the Lord. During my childhood she did her best to teach me the things of the Lord. Later in life she came to a personal relationship with Him.

I grew up in the Evangelical and Reformed Church where salvation by grace alone was not preached nor taught. I knew all about Jesus, what He did, how He lived, His miracles, His death and resurrection, but I didn't know Him personally.

My life had many ups and downs and all the while I was attending church and striving with my good works to please God. At a very low point in my life when we were deeply in debt and my wife and three children were all ill, I came to the crossroads. I watched a Billy Graham Crusade on television from some distant city and the message he preached seemed to be directed right at me. I wrestled with making that commitment to Christ, but didn't. The next afternoon and evening at work on the 4 to 12 shift I came to the conclusion that I needed to make that commitment to Christ. It seemed like there was no other choice if life was to have any meaning. That night when I came home from work at 1:00 A.M., I laid face down on the living room floor and told God that I couldn't live my life in my own strength and I accepted the gift of salvation from my Savior Jesus Christ. My life has never been the same.

Through several meaningful circumstances I was called by God to serve Him in the Christian Ministry and to help spread that wonderful message of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful and rewarding time it has been and I give Him all the praise for my salvation and the opportunity to serve Him.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

OF

Ralph C. Link

I believe the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired inerrant Word of God. I believe the Bible is the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and it is the final authority for the Christian faith and life.

I believe in one God, who is eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I believe in the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ that He is true God and true man. I believe that He was born of the Virgin Mary, that He lived in sinless life, that He performed the miracles recorded in Scripture, that He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins, that He bodily arose from the dead, that He ascended on high where He is at the right hand of Almighty God as our intercessor.

I believe in the Holy Spirit and that He comes and indwells each believer at the time of conversion. I believe that He lives in each believer to lead, to instruct, and to convict so that a believer may live a more godly life.

I believe that through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and through His resurrection, this is the only ground for justification and salvation for all who receive Him. A Lord and Savior and to such as receive Him, they are born of the Holy Spirit and become children of God.

I believe water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church but are not means of salvation.

I believe in the personal and premillennial and imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe in the resurrection of the dead, for the believer to resurrection of life and joy with the Lord, for the unbeliever to resurrection of judgement and everlasting punishment.